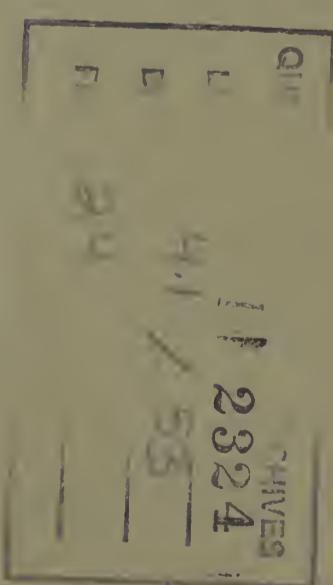


John Burroughs Papers

1970.10.1



It is generally conceded that the surname Detlor originated in the Palatinate, in Western Germany. George Hill Detlor, a grandson of John Valentine Detlor, the emigrant from Ireland, refers to his family as being of Palatine Extraction. Family tradition states that the family resided at, or near, Abbey Leix, on the estate of Lord de Vesci, in Queen's County, Central Ireland. Knittle's book, 'Early Palatine Emigration', states that a number of Palatines settled in Queen's County, near Abbey Leix.

Detlor, as a surname, is quite definitely of germanic origin. It is certainly not Irish, nor, indeed, British or Scottish. The ending er or or is common in Germany, particularly along the Rhine Valley. This ending indicates an occupation, such as Walker, Forester, etc. In French, this ending would be ier or ierc, with the same meaning.

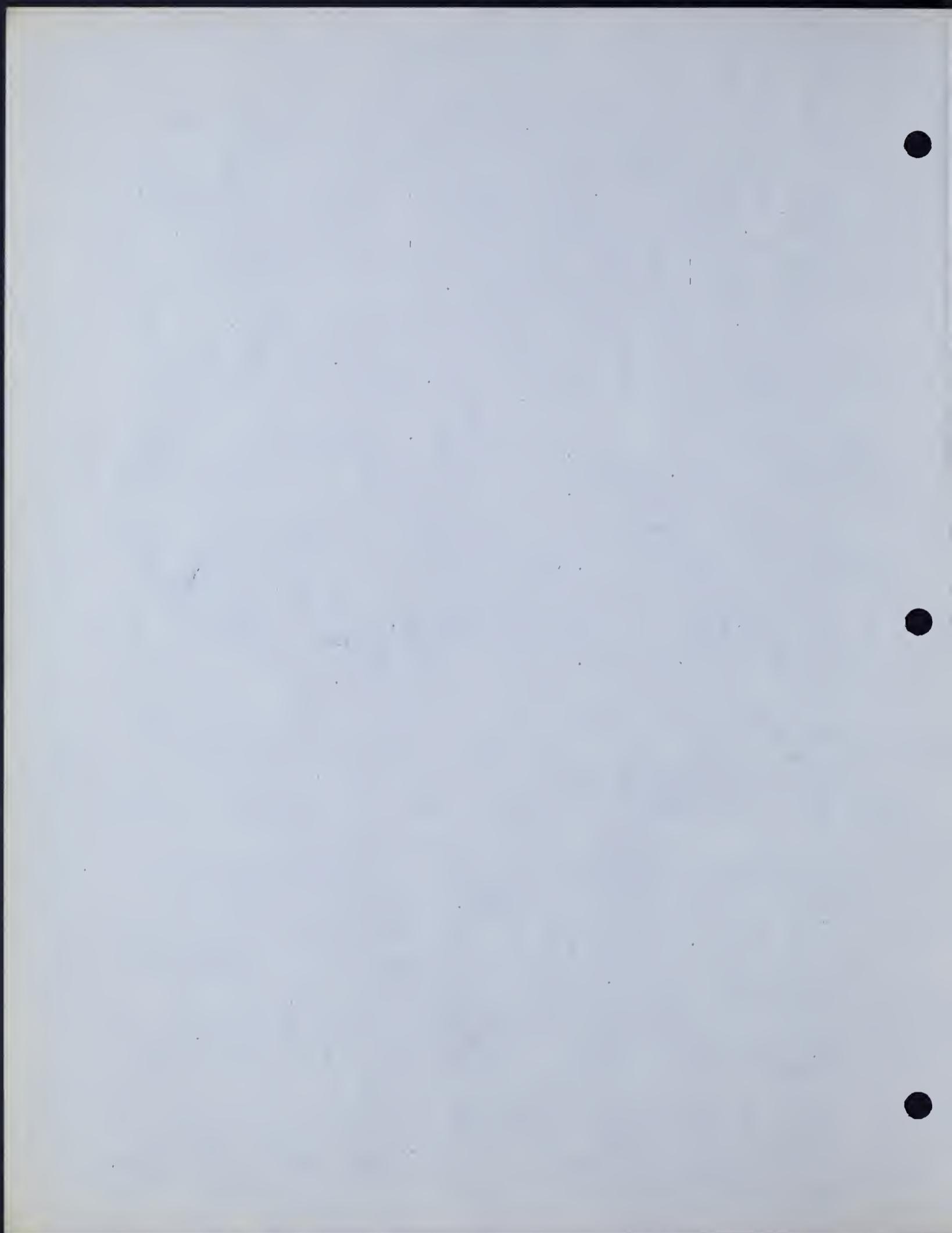
The name has been spelled in several ways. In earliest Palatine records it is spelled Dedler, or Tettler. Early Canadian records have it Duttler, Dutler, Dettler and Detler. The family has invariably spelled it Detlor from the earliest times of which we have record.

The area in Western Germany from which the Palatines emigrated included the lands adjacent to the Rhine River between the Swiss border and the junction of the Moselle and Rhine Rivers, and also the vallies of the Main and the Neckar. This area comprised the Palatinate proper, as well as the districts of Darmstadt and Hanau, Franconia (including the area around the cities of Nuremburg, Bair-euth and Wurzburg), the Archbishopric of Mayence, and the Archbishopric of Treves. The districts of Spires, Worms, Hesse-Darmstadt, Zweibrucken, Nassau, Alsace and Baden are also mentioned. To this list Wurtemberg must be added, since a number of Palatines are known to have emigrated thence.

Although there was likely sporadic emigration of Palatines to neighboring countries before 1709, the so-called early Palatine emigration began in the spring of that year, when approximately thirteen thousand persons arrived in Southern England from the Palatinate and adjacent States. This movement was the beginning of the great emigration of West German peoples to various parts of the world, particularly to America in the period prior to the American Revolution.

There were several remote causes of this massive emigration of the Palatines. The most important was the more or less continuous devastation and wars within the several states along the Rhine Valley. For almost a century, beginning with the Thirty Years War in 1618, war and devastation was no stranger to these unfortunate people. The Thirty Years War began as a contest between the Protestant and Roman Catholic States in Germany and Austria, and ended as a struggle for political power in Europe. The turmoil set up by this protracted struggle led to lingering wars between the various small Germanic States. In 1674, and again in 1688 and 1689, Louis XIV of France found opportunity to devastate the small states along the Rhine, partly to vent his malice against Protestants. Again, in May, 1707, French armies invaded southwestern Germany, ruining crops, plundering communities and levying taxes.

Of less importance, but contributing to the discontent of the people, was the extremely high taxes imposed by the various German Princes, in their attempt to emulate the splendor of the Court of France. Important also was the desire of the people for lands of their own, and of the younger generation for adventure and better opportunities.



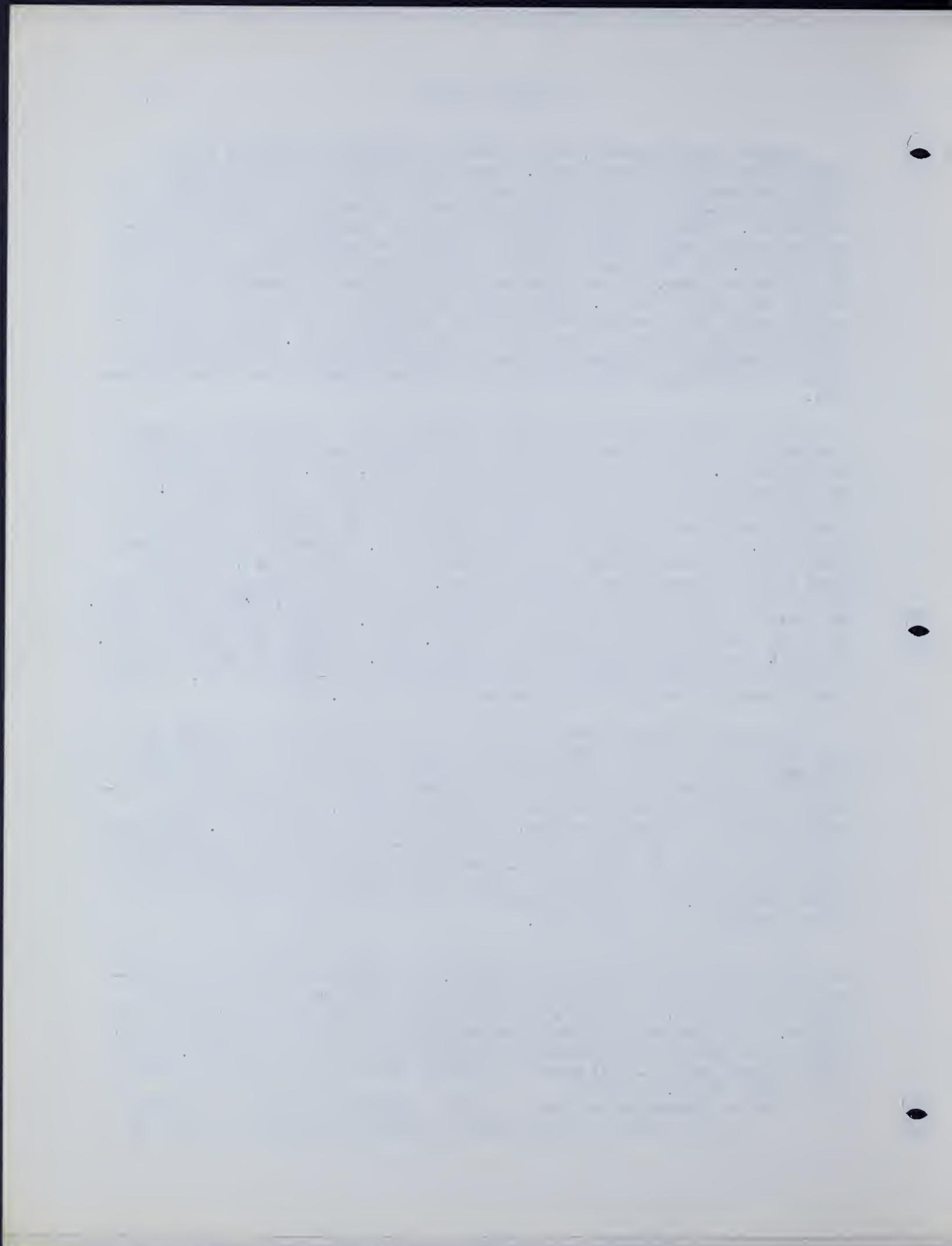
Another cause suggested, and in general accepted in eighteenth century England, was religious persecution. Certainly religious conditions were of large importance in the early eighteenth century. To ingratiate themselves with benevolently inclined people, emigrants found it convenient to plead religious persecution. Friends of the immigration in England justified their help on religious grounds, while others fiercely attacked the authenticity of the rumored persecutions. The disagreement on this point has been perpetuated by descendants of that German stock, who are reluctant to forego a lustrous prestige equal to that of the Pilgrim Fathers. Evidence that religious persecution was not an important factor in the emigration is the fact that almost one-third of the Palatines in London on June 16, 1709, were of the Catholic faith. Furthermore, of the 1770 families of Palatines admitted to England 550 were Lutherans; 693 were of the Reformed Church; 512 were Catholics; 12 were Baptists; and 3 were Mennonites.

The immediate cause of the Palatine movement was the extremely cold weather during the winter of 1708-9, the worst in a century, which placed a blight on the Palatinate. As early as the beginning of October, 1708, the cold was intense and by November 1st, it was said, firewood would not burn in the open air! In January of 1709 wine and spirits froze into solid blocks of ice; birds on the wing fell dead; and, it is said, saliva congealed in its fall from the mouth to the ground. Most of Western Europe was frozen tight. The Seine and all the other rivers were ice-bound, and on the 8th of January, the Rhine, one of the most rapid rivers of Europe, was covered with ice. But what had never been seen before the sea froze sufficiently all along the coasts to bear carts, even heavily laden. The Arctic weather lasted well into the fourth month. Perhaps the period of heaviest frost was from the 6th to the 25th of January. Then snow fell until February 6th. The fruit trees were killed and the vines destroyed. The calamity of this unusually bitter weather fell heavily on the husbandmen and vine-dressers, who, in consequence, made up more than half of the emigrants of 1709.

The idea of emigration was no new thing thrust suddenly on the Palatines. Proprietors in the British Colonies, particularly North Carolina, had already advertised throughout the western Germanic States for colonists. A few leaders among the Palatines had already visited England during the previous year to discover under what conditions emigration might take place. In fact, one small party, composed of several families, had already left the Palatinate. Queen Anne of England was very sympathetic towards the down-trodden Palatines, particularly toward those of the Protestant faith. Many British statesmen and philanthropists also favored assistance to the Palatines, so that they might find new homes in British dominions. Offers of assistance was enough to light the spark, and the great movement began to take shape.

The extremely cold winter had hardly begun to abate, when preparations were started in many homes along the Rhine River. The movement of the first contingents began in April, when boatloads of the emigrants started down the Rhine, bound for Rotterdam, in Holland, from which port the sailings were to depart for England. Before gathering up their few possessions, the head of the family had to procure a letter of recommendation from the Mayor, or other official. One of these, secured in 1709, will give an indication of the similar letters carried by the first Detlor. It reads:

Gerhart Schaeffer has lived with us in Hilgert Dorf with his housewife for 24 years and has conducted himself well and honestly, so that



all his neighbours regarded him as a faithful neighbor and were entirely satisfied with him, and the neighbors would have been much pleased if it had been God's will that he should remain longer here.

This document was signed by the Mayor, duly sealed and witnessed.

A similar letter of recommendation, although a little later in time, is in the possession of another Palatine family. It is worthy of being quoted here, as it is likely that many Palatine families started out on their emigration with a similar document in their possession. I quote:

The Bearer John Conrad Sell from Rotheu Bergen, County Assenberg, Germany, is born in a pure marriage bed with his father Caspar Sell and his mother Anna Elizabeth with their son after he was born on the 15th of December 1738 immediately the 17th of December 1738 Baptized and John Conrad named. His godfather was John Conrad Bollger from the same place with increased age is he taught *ees* in the Christian Religion and to the Lord's Supper confirmed. His Character was always good and he could take the Lord's Supper without delay.

This Certificat is with our Church Seal

Given

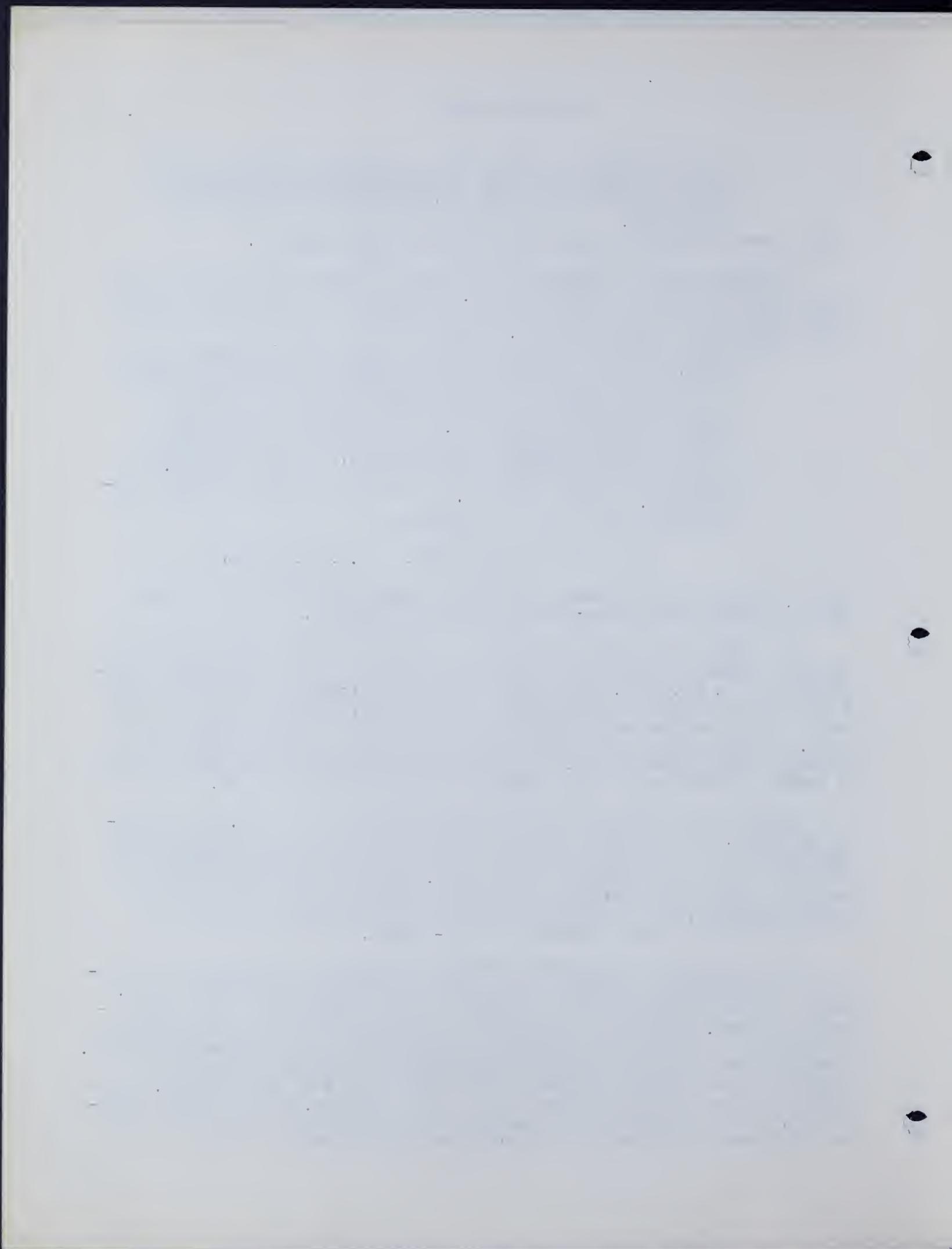
the 2 of July 1763. S.G.L.M. Keeoser
Pastor

As you will note, this document is written in English by a German, and a good deal of sympathy must be shown for his use of our language.

The voyage down the Rhine to the sea was long and tedious for the Palatine families, particularly where there were several small children, and usually lasted from four to six weeks. There were interminable delays, caused by local regulations and restrictions in the form of fees and tolls. These last caused a good deal of privation from families having ventured on the journey with insufficient funds. Provisions were soon depleted, and, if it had not been for gifts along the way of bread, meat, butter, cheese and even clothing at the hands of the kindly German and Dutch people, many would have been forced to turn back.

By April 19th nine hundred Palatines had arrived at Rotterdam. They continued to arrive, even though the Elector of the Palatinate had published an edict forbidding emigrants to leave, and even though two boatloads had been seized in the Rhine River and the passengers imprisoned. But this action did not deter the movement, and by early June they were arriving in Rotterdam at the rate of a thousand per week. By the fall more than fifteen thousand souls had made the first leg of the journey to freedom and self-respect.

It is difficult to imagine the confusion and chaos that the arrival of thousands of needy emigrants brought to the city of Rotterdam and neighboring ports. Shelter, food and transportation, as well as authority for this or that, were urgently required. Charitable organizations in Holland, Belgium and West Germany, as well as in Great Britain, solicited funds on behalf of these unfortunate people. Transportation to England was furnished by British troop ships returning from carrying soldiers to the mainland of Europe, and by any west bound packets. Private individuals also supplied transportation in some instances. As the refugees boarded ship, they were supplied with provisions for a six to eight day period, which was sufficient to last until they reached the English shore.

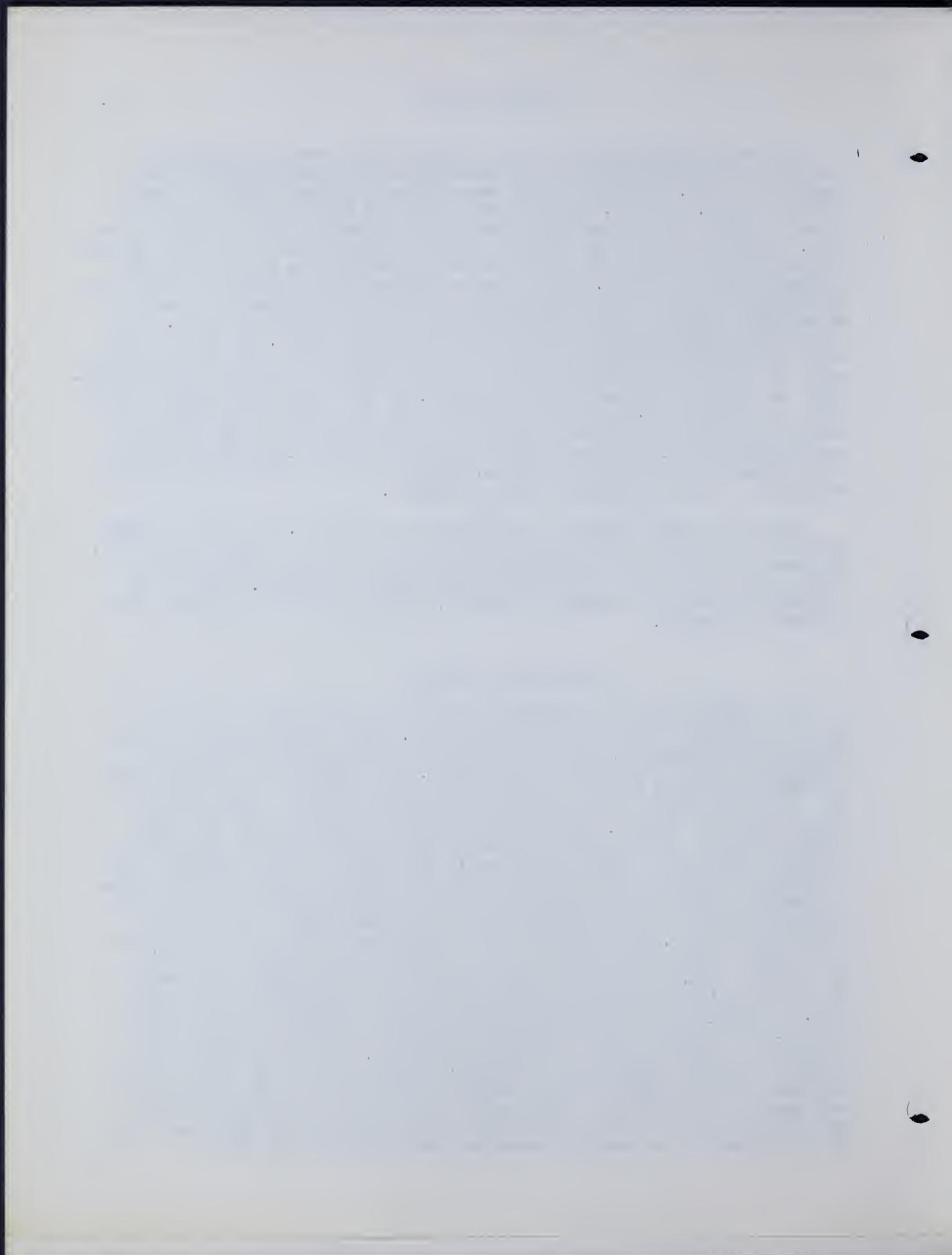


Although the English authorities, including Queen Anne, were sympathetic towards the Palatines, they were not prepared for the great exodus which had developed in 1709. There had been no concerted action with respect to disposal of the refugees. Hitherto, encouragement, by word or by deed, had come from private citizens or by government officials who had acted without official sanction. These were the persons who had intimated that there was room in the Colonies for the refugees; these were the people who had used private funds to aid the refugees in their distress. Even so, no one expected the emigration to reach such magnitude. Instead of arriving as a gentle rain, the exodus became a flood. In three months more than eleven thousand alien people had arrived in London. They flooded the squares, taverns, parks and all available refuges. So great was the need, that sixteen hundred tents were issued by the Board of Ordnance, and encampments were set up on vacant lands about the city. Barns and houses, wherever available, were rented to accommodate the refugees. As might well be expected, disease broke out in the crowded encampments. In addition, the funds of the refugees soon became exhausted, and they were dependent on such charity as the English people were able to supply. Many were forced to beg in the streets. The price of bread rose alarmingly, and the poor of London, blaming it on the Palatines, attacked the encampments, armed with scythes, axes and hammers.

Numerous attempts were made to dispose of the refugees. Settlement of small groups in various parts of England ended in failure in practically all instances. This was partially due to the antagonism of the poor of the communities, who feared that an influx of refugees would add to their own misery. Nor were the Palatines in favor of settlement in England. Their one aim was settlement beyond the seas, in America.

SETTLEMENT IN IRELAND

One suggestion which was brought forward that hectic summer of 1709 was that the Palatines should be settled in Ireland. While there would not be space for all the refugees, the idea would ease the burden, and at the same time would bolster the Protestant cause in Ireland. This suggestion of the Ministry met with the approval of several large landowners in Ireland, and by August of that year 794 families were on their way by wagon to Chester, England, where they embarked for Ireland. They landed in Ireland in September and were temporarily lodged in Dublin, where each person over fourteen received a weekly allowance of 18 pence, while those under 14 received 12 pence. By January, 1710, the number of Palatines in Ireland had increased to 3,073; steps were then taken to distribute them on various large estates where each family received a small holding of land at a rental of one third the accustomed rate, in addition to a small subsistence. In spite of what may be considered liberal terms and their destitution, almost three hundred of these families left Ireland for England by November, 1710. In February, 1711, only 188 of the 533 families were still on the land allotted to them, and the total number of Palatines in Ireland was 2057. By March 1712, the number had decreased to 263 families, a total of 978 persons. In September, 1712, 130 families were settled on the Southwell estate in Limerick, where they grew, mainly, flax and hemp. Another less well known group was settled at Abbey Leix, the Queen's County estate of the first Baronet, the Right Reverend Thomas de Vesci, Bishop of Killaloe and Ossory. These two settlements of the Palatines remain even to this day, although there has been much intermarriage with the Irish and these people have all but forgotten their Palatine ancestry, and consider themselves more Irish than the Irish.



Family tradition confirms that the Detlor family originated in the Palatinate and came to America by way of Ireland in 1756. It is, therefore, safe to assume that the first Detlor crossed the English Channel in the eventful emigration of 1709, and that he was among those Palatines who settled in Ireland in 1709 or 1710. A careful review of the shipping lists of those who crossed to England in the summer of 1709 reveals one name only which closely approximates the name now carried by this family, namely, Johan Jacob Dedler, a single person. He is assumed to be the emigrating ancestor of the Detlor family. Johan Jacob's name is not found among those Palatines who returned to Germany, nor among those who went to America at that time. It is, therefore assumed that he remained in England or went to Ireland. That he went to Ireland is most likely, as family tradition states that the family settled on the Vesci estate at Abbey Leix, in Queen's County.

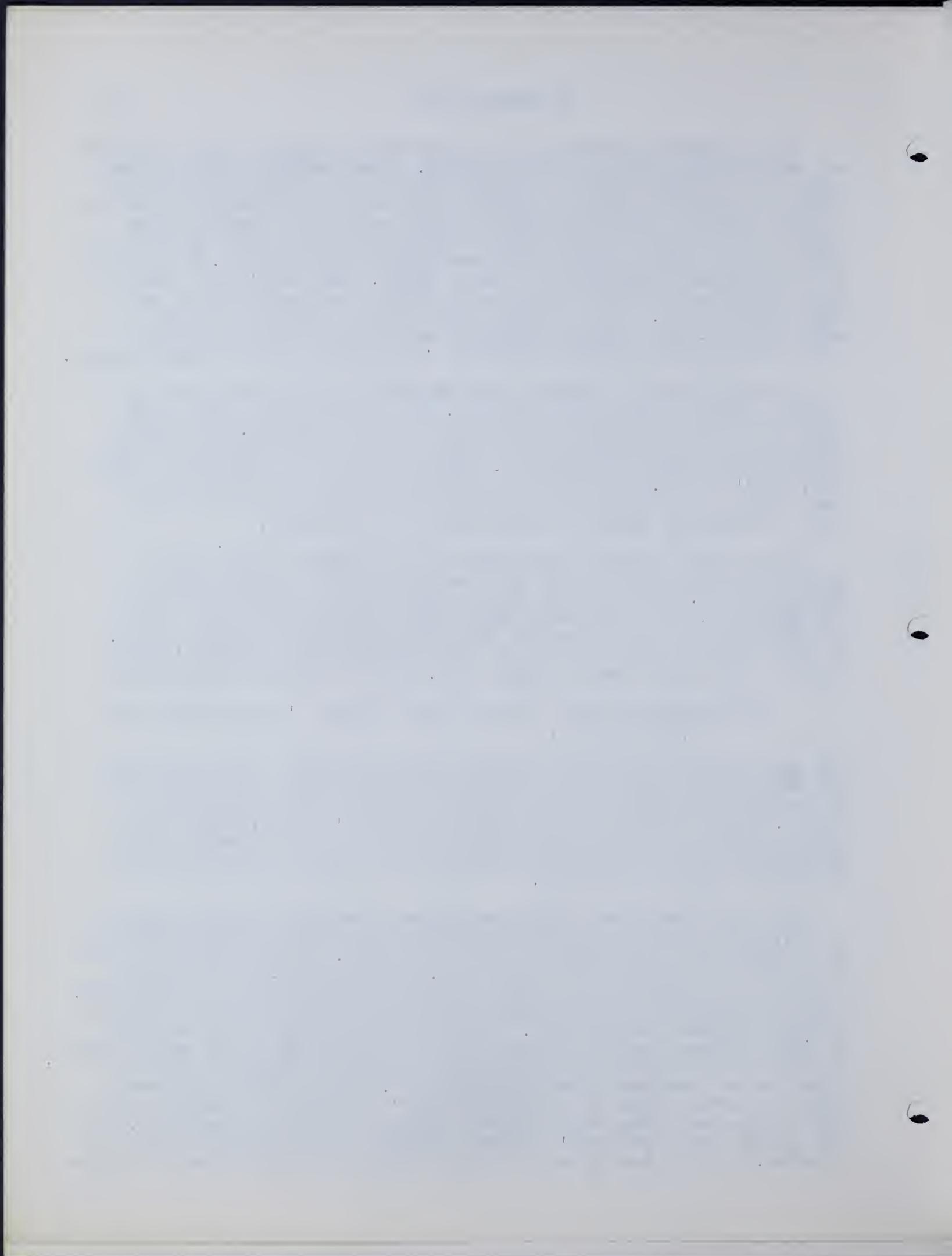
Johan Jacob Dedler is shown as being unmarried in 1709. He may have been fifteen or fifty years of age at that time. It is possible that he was in his teens and that he accompanied a married sister in the emigration. Unfortunately very little is known of the family in Ireland between 1709 and 1756, when John Valentine Detlor emigrated to America, beyond the fact that he had lived at Abbey Leix, Queen's County. One other item is of interest, namely that in 1934 there was a family in Ireland, of Palatine origin named Tattler. Without doubt this name is a corruption of Dedler, just as Detlor was once Dedler.

If we assume that Johan Jacob Dedler was the ancestor of the Detlors of America, he, then, was either the father or grandfather of John Valentine, the emigrant of 1756. The George Hill Detlor papers state that John Valentine was born about 1735. This date does not agree with a statement which appears in the War Office Papers, which are on file in the Public Archives in Ottawa, Ontario. In these papers is found a muster roll of the 2nd Battalion of the King's Royal Regiment of New York, dated in January, 1783. This roll supplies the following:

Valentine Detlor, born in Ireland, aged 56 years, 5' 8" in height, with 7 years service.

This means that John Valentine was born in 1726, and not 1735. The Detlor papers also state that he married Catherine Hill in Ireland, shortly before emigration. If so, and if he was born in 1735, he married younger than was the custom in Ireland. Edward Carscallen, who married Catherine Hill's sister, Elizabeth, in 1754, was born about 1725, making him about 29 years of age at marriage, which agrees with the fact that Irish men married later in life than usual because of the general poverty of the people.

Johan Jacob Dedler was a single person when he emigrated from the Palatinate in 1709. If he married immediately after 1709, he might have been the grandfather of John Valentine, if the latter had been born in 1735. If John Valentine had been born in 1726, as the War Office Papers claim, then he was son, and not grandson, of Johan Jacob, seeing that only seventeen years had elapsed between 1709 and 1726. Assuming that this is true, then Johan Jacob must have been in his teens in 1709, and likely married about 1717-1725. This supposition is confirmed by the method of naming children which was prevalent in Northwestern Europe and the British Isles. By this method, the first son was named for his paternal grandfather, while the second son was named for his maternal grandfather. As John Valentine was born in 1726, some seven or eight years after his father's marriage, it is safe to assume that he was a second son, and, therefore, named for his maternal grandfather. If this is true, then Johan Jacob's wife was a daughter of a man whose given name was Valentine. A careful look through the list of Palatines for persons named Valentine



who emigrated in 1709, and who did not return to Germany or emigrate to America in 1710-11, may be listed as follows:

Eyearch, John Valentine, a single person.
Herman, Valentine, a wife and one son.
Kaldauer, Valentine, a wife, 2 sons and 3 daughters.
Presler (Bresler), Valentine, a wife, 3 sons and 2 daughters.
Kerry, Valentine, a wife and five children.
Achber (Nachber), Falenteyn, a wife and two children.
Gerhart, Valentine, a wife and five children.
Gloos, Valentine, a wife.
Grosch, Falenteyn, a wife.
Scherman, Valentine, a single person.
Obber, Valentine, a wife and two children.

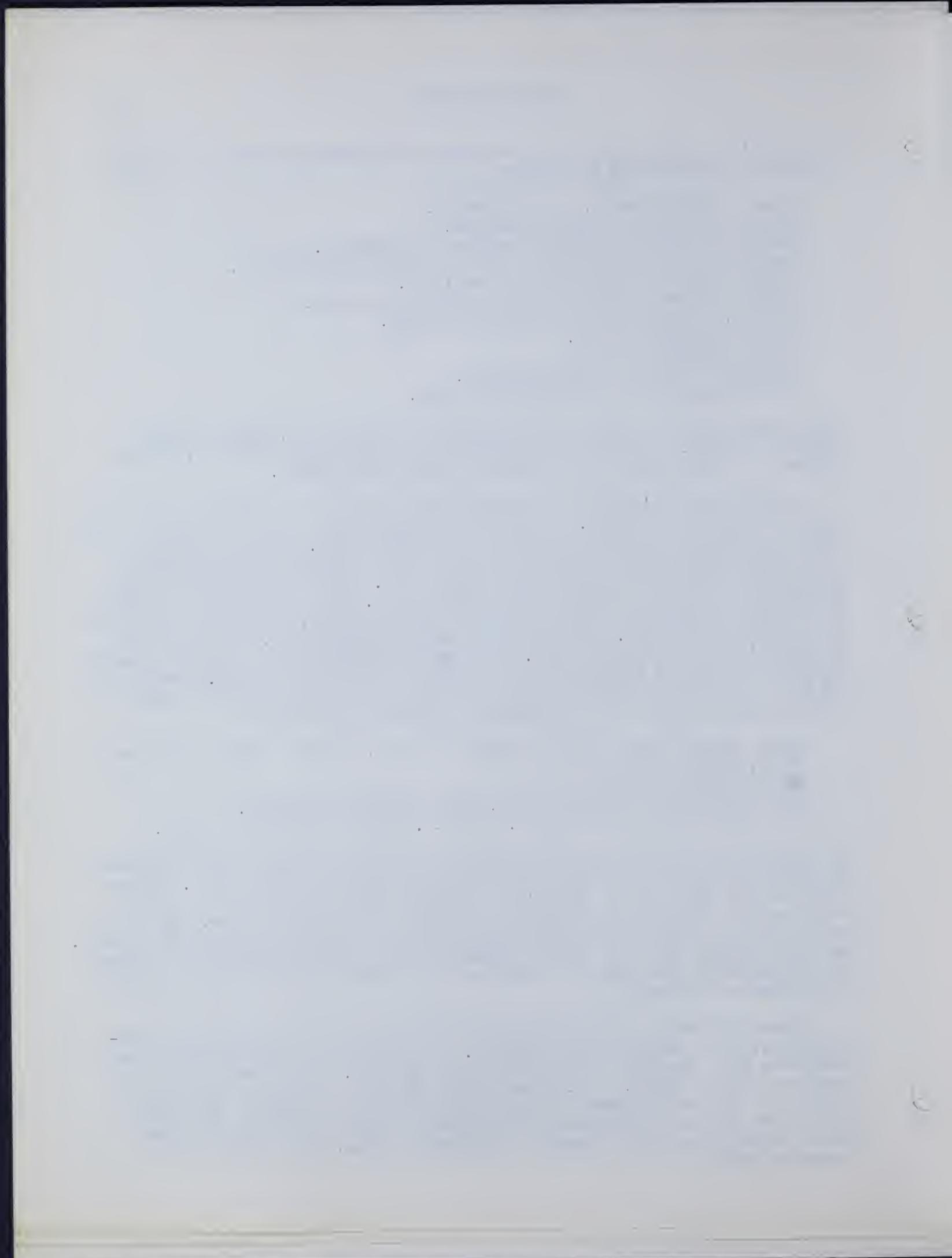
One of these persons, particularly Herman, Kaldauer, Presler, Kerry, Achber, Gerhart, or Obber, was likely the grandfather of John Valentine Detlor. Further research in Ireland will be necessary to determine the answer.

Valentine Detlor's wife was Catherine Hill, as has been recorded in the Detlor Papers of George Hill Detlor. This is not a British name, in spite of the fact that hill is an English word referring to an elevation of land. It is possible that there are families in the British Isles whose name originates from the fact that their first ancestor was a man who lived on a hill. A clue to the origin of this Hill family is found in the Carscallen family notes. Edward Carscallen, the first of the name to emigrate to America, married Elizabeth Hill, a sister of Catherine, wife of Valentine Detlor. Miss Jennie Carscallen, a descendant, made some notes as she talked with her grandmother. The information was that the name of Elizabeth was Hill, but that it originally had been Heil, and German in origin. A review of the lists of Palatines who emigrated to England in the summer of 1709 reveals the following names which closely approximate the word Heil, or Hill:

Heyll, Balser, and wife and 5 children. This R.C. family returned to Germany.
Heyll, Mattheye Jurg, and wife.
Hiel, Rudolph, and wife.
Heil, Hans Jacob, a single person. Later removed to New York.
Hill, John, wife and 2 children. This R.C. family returned to Germany.

It will be seen that the only persons of the name who could have been the ancestor of Elizabeth and Catherine Hill were Mattheys Jurg Heyll or Rudolph Hiel. However, Heyll would be more likely, as the 'ey' of Heyll would be pronounced as a long I, while the 'ie' of Hiel would be pronounced as a long E. If this be so, then it is most likely that Mattheys Jurg Heyll was parent, or grandparent of the Hill sisters. Mattheys Jurg and wife, not having children in 1709, can be considered as a young married couple at that time, and therefore it is likely that they were the parents of Elizabeth and Catherine.

Carscallen family history reveals that Edward Carscallen, who married Elizabeth Hill, was a soldier before marriage. His marriage to Elizabeth took place in Ireland in 1753, possibly at Abbey Leix or at Limerick. Their first child, a son, John, was born in August, 1754. Assuming that Edward had completed his military service by 1756, and assuming the urge of the Palatines to emigrate to America, it would be natural for the matter to be considered, seeing that Edward was once more a civilian, and that Catherine, the younger sister, was now the bride of Valentine Detlor.



Life in the New World

The second stage in the transportation of the Detlor family from the Banks of the Rhine River to the more permanent home in Ontario began in 1756, when, it is said, Valentine Detlor sailed from Ireland to New York.

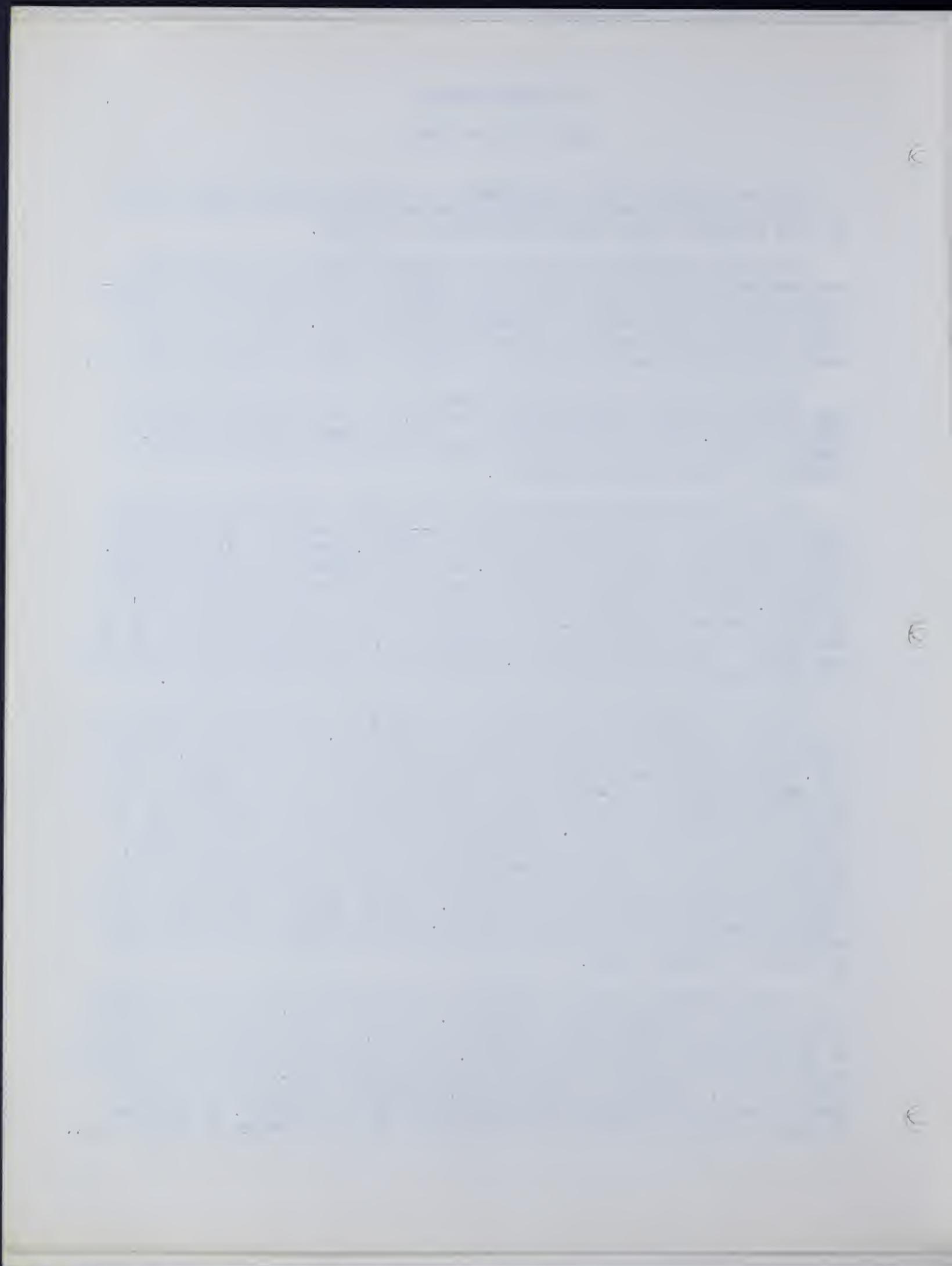
It is most unfortunate that there is at present little or no documentary confirmation regarding his emigration and subsequent life in the American Colonies, and that reliance must be placed upon family traditions, which, in the different branches of the family, are sometimes contradictory. Thus it is that any account of this period must be considered open to subsequent changes, if, and when, contemporary documents disprove statements at present considered to be true.

Family tradition claims that Valentine Detlor married Catherine Hill, and that either Valentine or Catherine had lived at, or near, Abbey Leix, Queen's County, Ireland. There is some doubt as to when and where they were married, although the consensus of opinion is that the ceremony took place in New York shortly after their arrival in America.

Nor is there definite information as to the port of departure from the Old Land, although it is assumed to be in Ireland--likely Limerick, from whence subsequent Palatines sailed to America, Cork, or Dublin. The year is given as 1756, both by the Carscallens and the Detlors. Edward Carscallen had married Elizabeth Hill in 1753, and their son, John, born in 1754, was a small child when the family emigrated. Edward and Elizabeth were accompanied on the voyage by the latter's sister, Catherine, then single. Valentine Detlor was on the same boat, and it is most likely that he and Catherine, his future wife, met for the first time as they were about to sail for the New World. Friendship must have ripened into love during the long voyage and the intimacy so unavoidable in a small sailing vessel.

Diaries of voyages during colonial times supply a very interesting picture of life at sea, such as these people must have experienced. As a rule, these sailing vessels were of less than one hundred tons in weight, more likely fifty, or even less. The price for the passage covered sleeping accommodation and a basic fare which usually amounted to seven pounds of bread, biscuits, flour, oatmeal or rice per week per passenger, as well thirty-five pounds of potatoes twice weekly, and three quarts of water per diem. In addition, passengers usually brought along a supply of fresh food which was exhausted long before the voyage was completed. Cooking was done on a grate, or fireplace, about fifteen feet in length, which was fastened to the ship and which moved with the motion of the boat, much to the misery of the cook, particularly if seasick. Pots and kettles were hung over this swaying fire, and cooking was a slow process. In many instances the voyage lasted so long that food supplies ran out, and passengers were in a starving condition by the time land was reached.

A possibility which cannot be ignored is that Edward Carscallen and Valentine Detlor may have come to America as soldiers. The Seven Years' War, which resulted in the conquest of French Canada, broke out in 1755, the year before the emigration of the Carscallens and Detlors to America. Several British regiments were dispatched to America in 1756, under the command of General Abercrombie. One of these, the 35th (Royal Sussex), originally the Irish Corps, was raised in Ireland in the time of King William III, and served continuously in Ireland for 48 years. In addition, the 42nd, the 44th, and the 48th, saw extensive service in America at the same time.



Life in the New World

Be this as it may, Detlor family traditions do not mention military service. Indeed, there is a great silence respecting the period from 1756 to 1770, when the settlement in the Camden District took place. One can only assume that, with other Palatines from Ireland, the Detlors resided in or near New York City during this period. Certainly, the Carscallens lived in that city, where, it is said, the father employed his time in the weaving industry, as Detlor may have done. Both families remained in New York until 1770, when they, in conjunction with several other Palatine families, removed to Camden Township, in Northern New York, to establish themselves on virgin land.

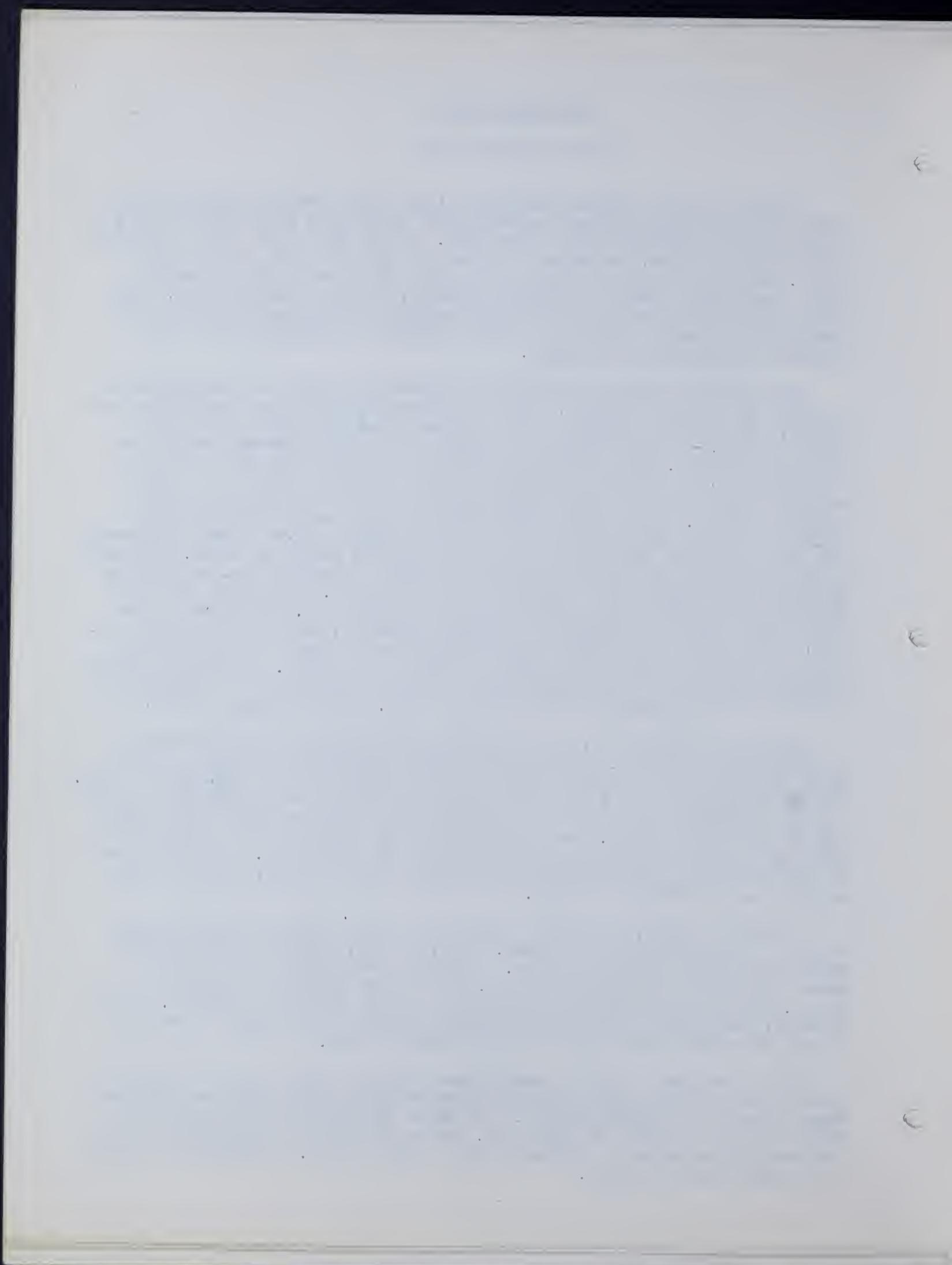
Other Palatine families from Ireland followed the Detlors and Carscallens to New York. The Emburys, Dulmages, Shiers, Hoffmans, Hecks, Switzers and Gieirs came in 1760, and all these families, bound together by cultural and marital ties, formed a closely-knit group in the hodge-podge of New York. There was unity also in religious belief. They clung to their Lutheran affiliations during the more than fifty years since their emigration from the Palatinate, and it was only in the last few years of their stay in Ireland that there was any change in their religious outlook. In the summer 1760, a group of Palatines from the vicinity of Limerick, including the Emburys, Hecks and Switzers, arrived in New York, where they affiliated with those who had crossed the ocean a few years before. This group had been influenced by the teachings of John Wesley in Ireland, and, as might be expected, carried the seeds of Methodism to the New Land. A Methodist class was formed under the influence of Philip Embury and Barbara Heck. This class was the nucleus from which grew the Methodist Church in America, and its first church, St. John's, in New York. The Detlors, among others, had the honor of being members of this first Methodist class and Methodist Church in America. This humble venture prospered, and in the 1760s Philip Embury, with the assistance of his congregation erected the first Methodist Church in the New Land. It was finished in 1768.

There is, unfortunately, little documentary evidence of the activities of the Palatines in New York. It is known that they, through their leaders, Philip Embury and the Hecks, applied for lands on two occasions, in 1763 and again in 1765.

In one instance it was for the so-called Embury-Wilson Patent of 2300 acres in the vicinity of Ashgrove, now in Washington County, New York, some fifty miles northeast of the City of Albany. These applications were refused, and it was not until 1770 that the group succeeded in obtaining lands for settlement. These lands were in what is now Washington County, New York State, near Ashgrove, where the group had previously attempted to settle.

It was the custom, in colonial days in New York Province, to grant large tracts of land to influential persons. These, in turn, leased the land to small holders who paid the rent in produce. In addition, especially on the borders, grants were made to discharged soldiers, particularly after the conquest of Canada. Few of these soldiers were inclined to become farmers or pioneers. So, in the main, land jobbers or influential persons bought up the soldier's lands for a song, and rented portions out to those in need of land.

It was from such a person, namely James Duane, a lawyer, that the Palatines bargained to purchase a block of land in Camden Valley, which Duane had purchased from a group of discharged soldiers. This block, amounting to 2550 acres, lay in what is called the Camden Valley Patent. Its southern border was six miles to the northeast of the hamlet of Ashgrove astride a small stream. It extended ten miles to the north from that point.



Life in the New World

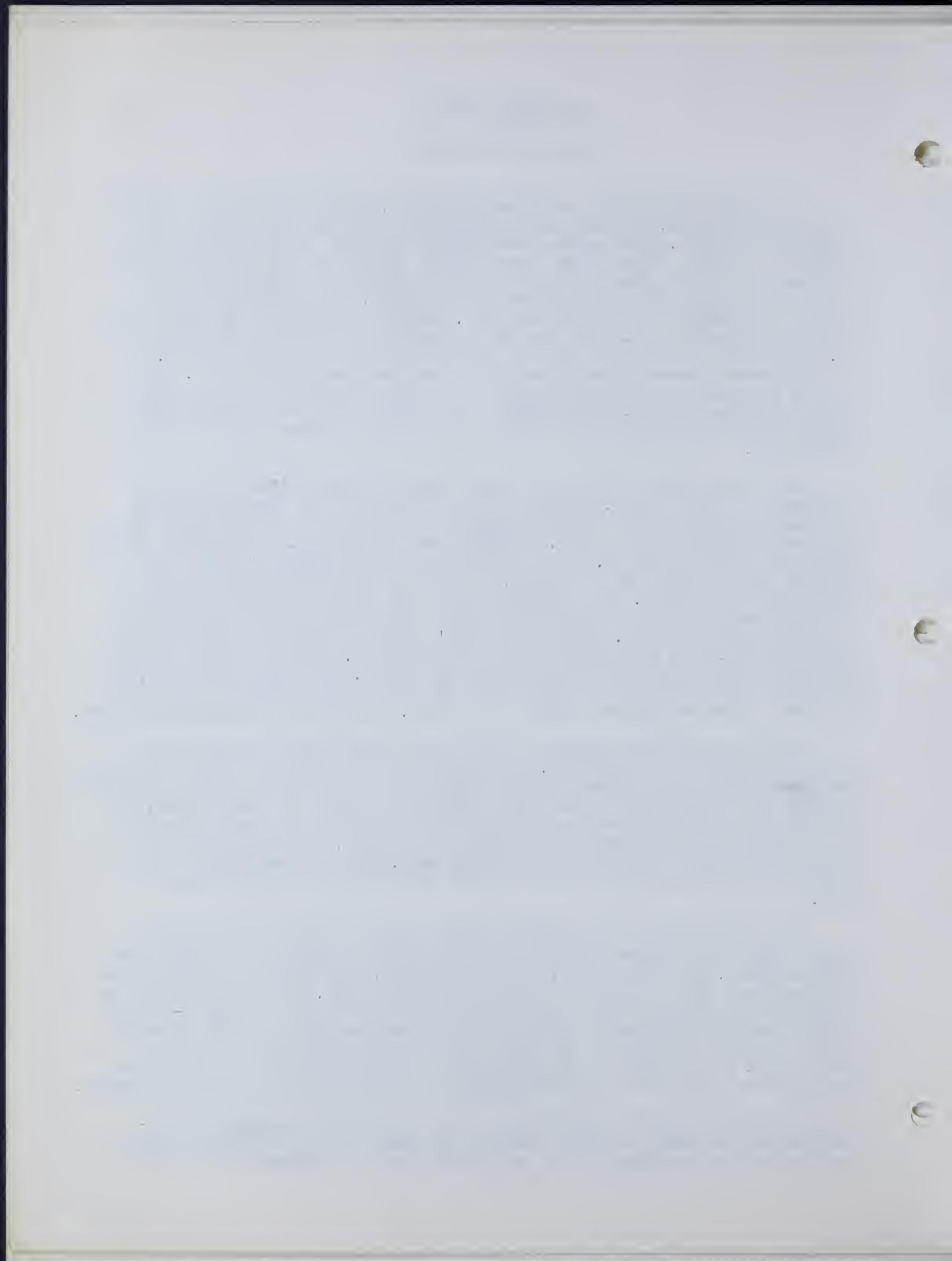
The Camden Valley Patent contained 8550 acres, partly valley land, with its over-shadowing hills. Not more than 2500 acres were arable, as a visit to the Valley will confirm. This was the land to which the group of Palatines came in the summer of 1770, after a boat journey up the Hudson River from New York and an overland trip of more than fifty miles from the neighborhood of Albany to the virgin lands which had been leased from Lawyer Duane. The individual leases which were executed in 1770 have been lost. There is, however, a subsequent group lease, dated May 1, 1773, which has been preserved, and is in the possession of Mr. William Eadie, now residing on the farm once possessed by Philip Embury. It is an agreement between James Duane of the first part and Philip Embury, David Embury, Paul Heck, John Dulmage, Edward Carscallen, Peter Sparling, Valentine Detlor, Abraham Bininger, Peter Miller, Nathan Hawley, farmers, and Elizabeth Hoffman, widow, in trust for her children, all of West Camden, parties of the second part.

The arable land in Camden Valley was apportioned out to these lessees in accordance to their wishes. Loyalist claims of many of these persons, made in 1787 and 1788 for loss of property, supply information regarding the amount of land so leased, with the rentals. Paul Heck leased 250 acres, at an annual rental forever of 3 pence per acre. Garret Miller bought Peter Sparling's right and interest in the Valley for 110 pounds, and had paid between thirty and forty pounds on the principal. John Lawrence claimed, in right of his wife, the widow of Philip Embury, regarding the latter's share, which was 188 acres leased forever for 6 pence per acre. Edward Carscallen's share was 350 acres, for himself and his family, on a lease forever at 6 pence per acre. Valentine Detlor's share was 312 acres on the same condition and annual rental. John Dulmage, however, had 200 acres, but his rental was only 3 pence per acre, likely because none of the land was cleared or because it was not so arable. John Embury's share was 125 acres.

During the first three years of this infant colony these pioneers worked hard at clearing some arable land. Heck noted that he had 42 acres cleared; Miller had between 12 and 13; Lawrence had 45; Carscallen had cleared 50 acres; Detlor reported 25 acres cleared, while Dulmage had 35 and Embury had only fifteen. At the same time money from the rent was hard to come by, and many were in arrears. This occasioned a new agreement with respect to payment, and Duane agreed to being paid in wheat at the rate of 6 lbs per acre. Even this was of no avail in the face of the civil war which involved the Valley in three short years to come.

The seeds of Methodism continued to be nourished in the new settlement. Embury organized the first Methodist Class in 1771, which held its meetings from house to house. The first church, built at Ashgrove, was burned by a fanatic, and the second was built at Sandgate, furthur down the valley. Later still, after the sudden death of Philip Embury as he labored in the fields of his brother-in-law, Peter Switzer, a new church was built in Cambridge, New York, in which there is a fine memorial to Embury. At the site of the first church there is a plaque, which reads: "Site of the Ash Grove Cemetery and second Methodist Church in the United States, organized by Irish Methodists under Thomas Ashton and Philip Embury".

It was not enough that these hardy farmers faced the development of productive farms on rocky, hillside farms at, for them in their destitution, high rentals. Before they began to reap any benefit from their labors, the peace of



Life in the New World

the Valley was disrupted by Civil War, pitting neighbor against neighbor and dividing families for centuries to come.

It is unfortunate that, at the moment, there is so little recorded about the story of Camden Valley. The Rev. W. Bowman Tucker, M.A., Ph.D., wrote a book, or pamphlet, on "The Camden Valley". Unfortunately, I have not been able to obtain a copy. Also, Mrs. Eula (Carscallen) Lapp, Meaford, Ontario, proposes to put the history of the Valley into an article.

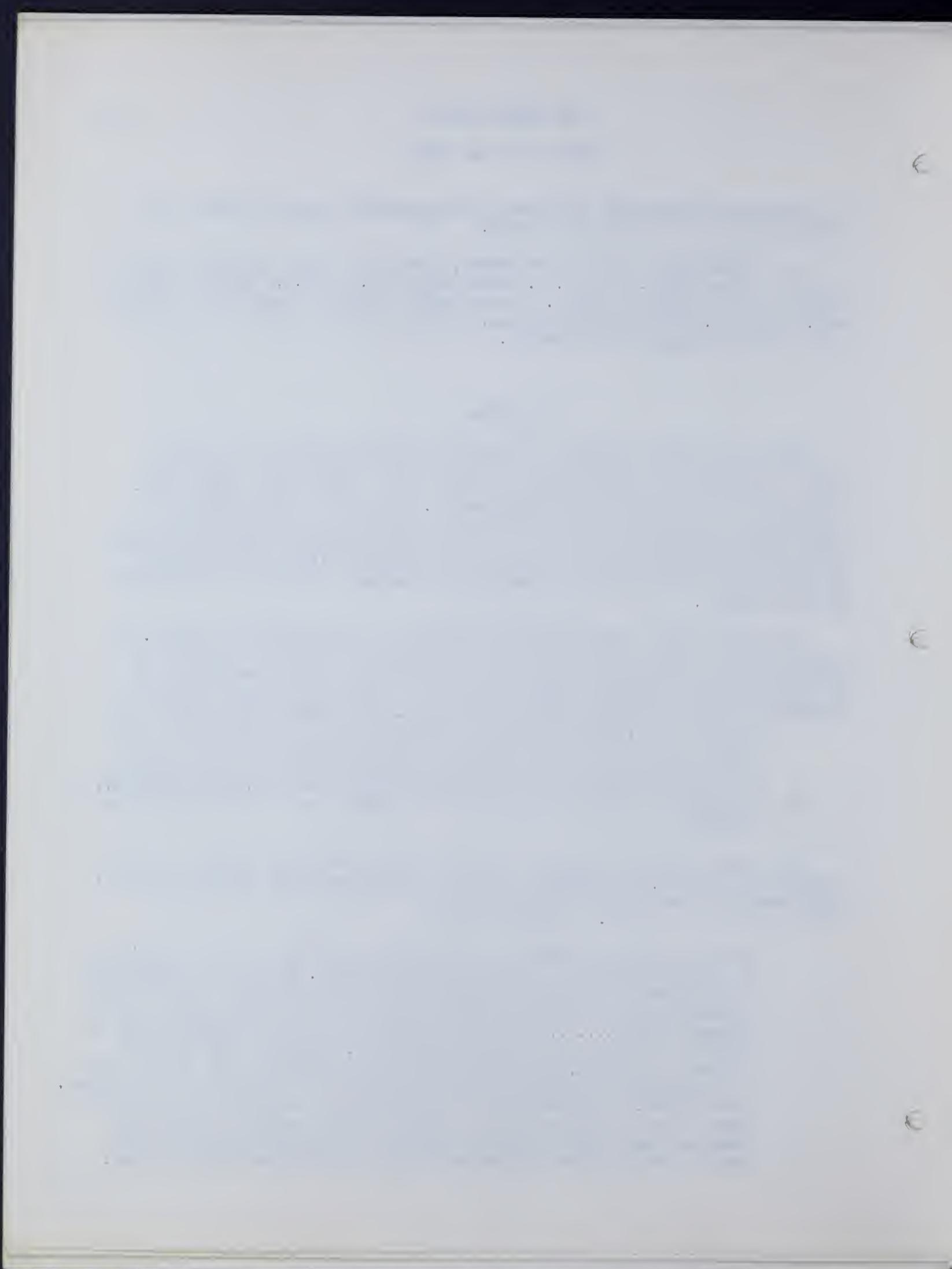
Civil War

Even as the first settlers of Camden Valley were spending their waking hours in clearing the virgin lands, the first faint rumblings of impending civil war was casting its shadows across the valley, and mountain background. A war that was to cleave brother from brother. A war that was to bring out the worst in man, slaughter in the dark of night, massacre and scalping in the forest glades, tarring and feathering, incendiarism casting its lurid brightness against sky and forest by day and by night, women and children left to defend the hearthstone against marauding bands, with everyone a loser, both in decency and self respect.

The causes of the American Revolution stem from the conquest of Canada. In this struggle to throttle the French who had waged an intermittent war on the American colonies, the cost of maintaining the struggle had fallen largely on the British people in Europe, with the benefits going to the colonies who were free from attack. As Bradley puts it in his book, 'The United Empire Loyalists'; The colonists, from New England to the Carolinas, lit bonfires, rang bells, and fired off their guns in their triumphant exuberance, while orators from pulpit and rostrum celebrated the glorious achievements of the British Empire, and even more fervently perhaps, if less loudly, thanked Heaven for the removal of the French terror and the French fur traders.

But, when it came to paying for the cost of the war which brought peace and expansion to the American colonies, and had cost them so little in men and money, there were harsh words when the Home Government considered that the colonies should help bear the costs. As Bradley put it;

Now the British taxpayer had been heavily laden by the Seven Years' War in Europe and America, and was growing restless. He had borne nearly all the expense of clearing the French out of North America and placing the hitherto hampered colonists in an improved position with a great and unclouded future.....That these colonies should now bear all or part of their own land defence was surely equitable. In truth, they frankly accepted it as such. They could hardly have done otherwise, loth as most of the Colonial legislatures had always been to vote money for any purpose, particularly, it may be noted, the salaries of their Governors. And now began a long wrangle as to the proportions which each of the thirteen Provinces was to contribute, for their own stipulations ran that they were to vote the money themselves without interference from the Crown.



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Then began a prolonged period of dissension on the part of the various colonies, New England claiming that it had borne a greater part in the struggle than had the others. Bradley put it this way:

This sort of thing went backwards and forwards between the different colonies, all of them recognizing their share in the responsibility, but in hopeless disagreement as to their respective contributions. It soon became apparent that they would shuffle out of it altogether, and leave the heavily burdened British taxpayer to bear the sole expense of their military as well as naval defences. This, in fact, actually, happened. It is true that the defence of the colonies, whose safety without it would not have been worth a month's purchase, was a leading argument for the Navigation Laws. But the late war had given the Americans both a welcome relief from a troublesome neighbor, and an unclouded future. Their own taxation, though much increased, was trifling compared with the burden that the British taxpayer, partly on their account, was called upon to bear. Lastly, the sum of money asked for was not sufficient to defray even the whole cost of the proposed defensive force. It is no wonder that the British Government grew irritable.

And now the first mutterings of the predicted storm were heard in the land. Despairing of getting assistance for their own defence out of the colonies, England passed the Stamp Act in 1768 to provide at least a portion of the money. The storm it caused, as we all know, its ultimate repeal, with rejoicings that evoked renewed professions of loyalty in most quarters.

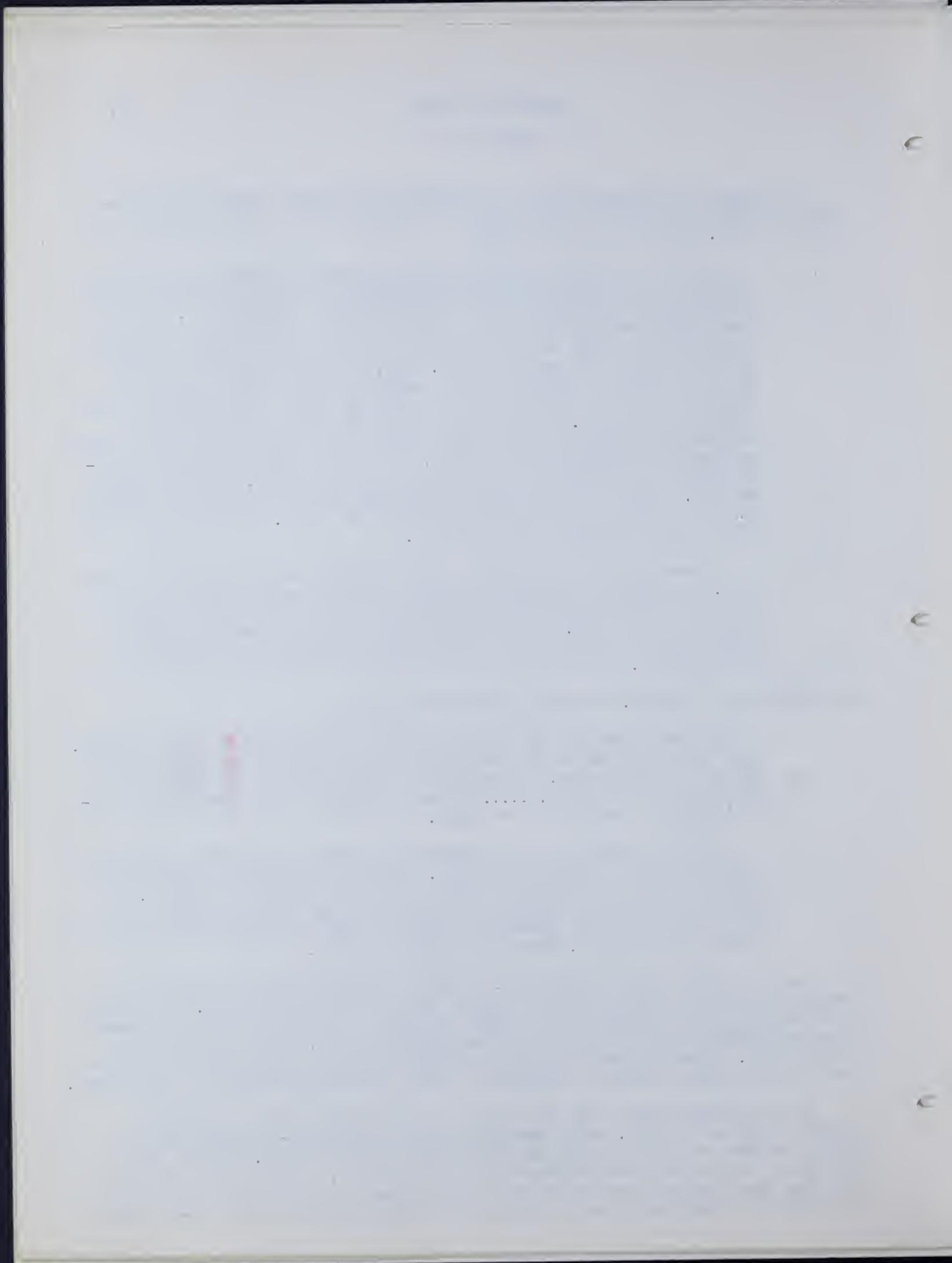
One thing led to another. Once more quoting from Bradley:

The Boston populace and in truth most of the colonists, hated soldiers. That the latter had freely shed their blood in ridding the former of the French in the late war, was nothing to these folks with the rowdy mob instinct in their blood.....The Boston roughs, rather grotesquely termed 'patriots', never let them alone.

The "Boston Massacre" also ranks with a careless and credulous posterity as an instance of British brutality. A crowd was engaged in the popular pastime of throwing missiles at an unoffending company of soldiers. One of the latter, in exasperation or by mistake, let off his musket, which gave his comrades the impression that the order to fire had been given, and four men were killed. There was a fearful outcry.

And so it went, from bad to worse. Lexington followed, then the attack on Canada, in the fall of 1775, and its failure during the ensuing winter. The arrival of a British force in Quebec in the summer of 1776 led to the retreat of the American army by way of the Richelieu River and Lake Champlain, with the British army at its heels. Crown Point was occupied and proved to be a rallying point for those who, in the northern regions, stood fast in their allegiance to British institutions.

Life in Camden Valley must have gone on as usual during these preliminary phases of the war to come. News travelled slowly in those far-off days, and the valley was more or less isolated and in a newly developed region. Even so, the men of the Valley must have considered the pros and cons, coming to the unanimous decision that they were for the memory of good Queen Anne and for the people who had given them sanctuary from the rigors of the Palatine Valley. Yet, during those



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first few years in the Valley, they kept their counsel and continued to wrest arable land from the valley and lower slopes of the neighboring mountains.

If life in secluded Camden Valley remained relatively unchanged in the fateful summer of 1776, the same could not be said for the rest of the American scene. In July, 1776, the Colonists declared their independence from the Mother Country. The moment of decision had arrived, and the time had come for the sheep to be divided from the goats. Rebel committees were set up in the larger centres for the purpose of furthering the rebellion. Men were called upon to declare their stand. Those against the rebellion, and for a continuance of close ties with the Mother Country were subjected to intimidation, fines and oftentimes imprisonment.

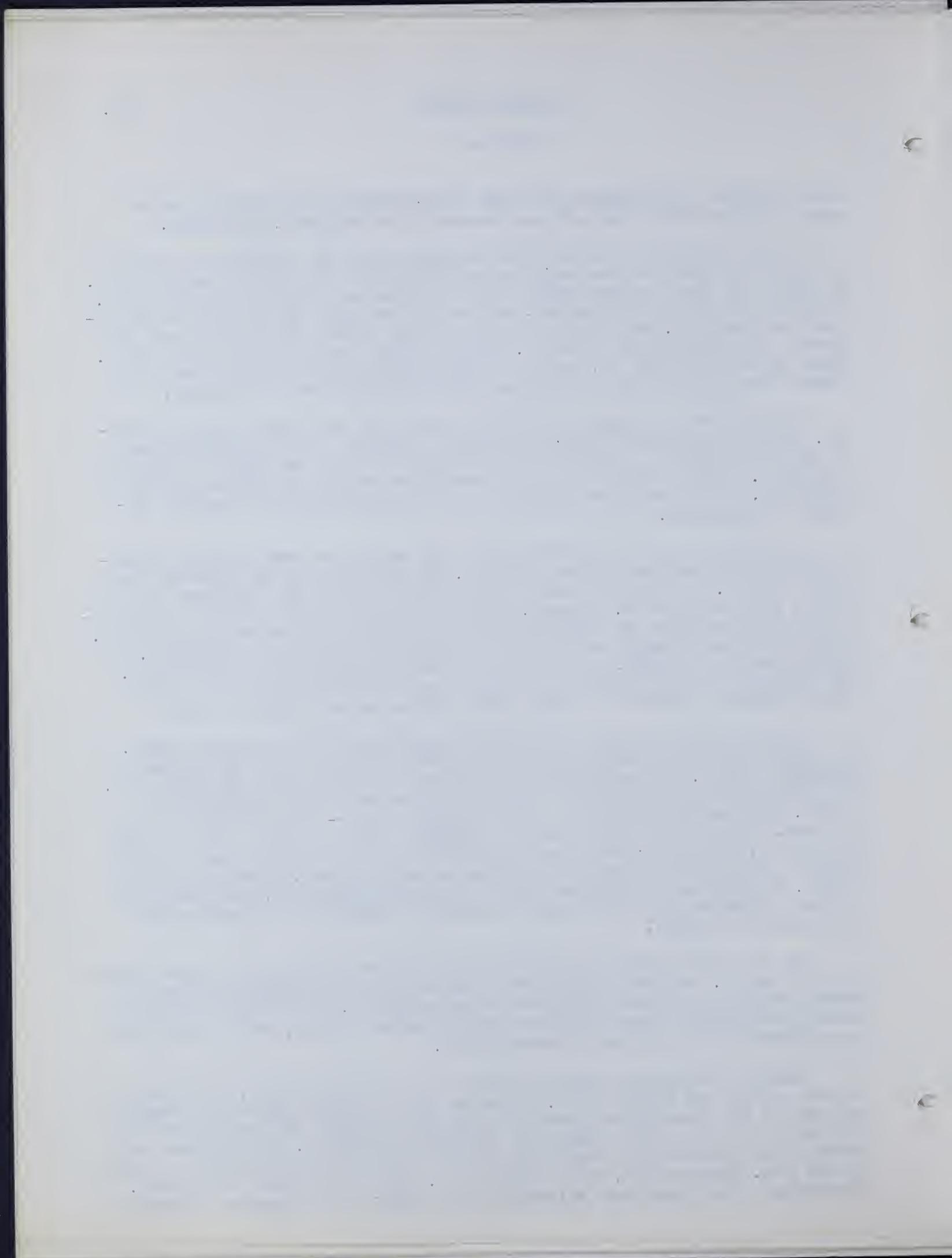
Those who remained loyal were slow in organizing their stand against rebellion. Their activities were largely confined to secretly organizing their forces in preparation for the time when the Mother Country would take steps to suppress the rebels. Leading men in the various communities became the nominal head of the resistance, and it was he who officered the different groups when Loyalist Regiments were gazetted.

In the spring of 1776, a British flotilla, bearing an army under the leadership of General Carleton, sailed up the St. Lawrence River to the relief of the City of Quebec. The American Army, which had besieged the city during the previous winter, retired up the St. Lawrence, followed by Carleton and his army, and ascended the Richelieu River and Lake Champlain on its retreat to the American Colonies. Carleton followed closely, and defeated the American ships on Lake Champlain. The British advance continued, and the fort at Crown Point fell into British hands. The occupation of Crown Point was a signal to many loyal Americans, and a large number flocked to Carleton to offer their services in the struggle to come.

The Loyalists came from the territory immediately adjacent to Crown Point. And among them was the small contingent from Camden Valley, under the command of Edward Carscallen. His loyalist claim states that he brought with him twenty men. The names of his party is easy to ascertain, by reason of their petitions and claims. They came practically to a man from the Valley -- Edward Carscallen with his sons, John and James; John and David Dulmage; Valentine Detlor with his sons, John, Jacob, and Samuel; Garret and Peter Miller; John and Andrew Embury; Philip Switzer; Paul Heck or Hicks; John Lawrence; as well as James, George and William Miller. On their arrival at Crown Point in early November, 1776, they were taken on board Carleton's ship, where they received the thanks of the commander for their proof of loyalty.

The die had now been cast, and the loyal Palatines had left the Camden Valley, never to return. When the British force returned down Lake Champlain before the annual freezing, the Camden Valley men accompanied them. Records show that they spent the following winter in barracks at Chateauguay, Quebec, whilst their wives and children remained behind in Camden Valley.

General John Burgoyne arrived in Quebec in the spring of 1777, accompanied by more British and German troops. His object was to advance across Lake Champlain and descend the Hudson River, where he was to meet the army of General Howe from New York, and in this way to crush the rebellion in New York. This Northern army reached Fort Ticonderoga in early June, which was the signal to Loyalists to rally to his side. Hundreds came, and as they did so, Loyalist regiments were formed. Carscallen and his party were allocated to the Queen's Loyal Rangers, commanded by



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Colonel John Peters, formed mainly from Loyalists from Vermont and adjacent territory. Edward Carscallen and John Dulmage were appointed lieutenants in the company from Camden Valley. Valentine Detlor and his sons, because of their ages, enlisted as privates.

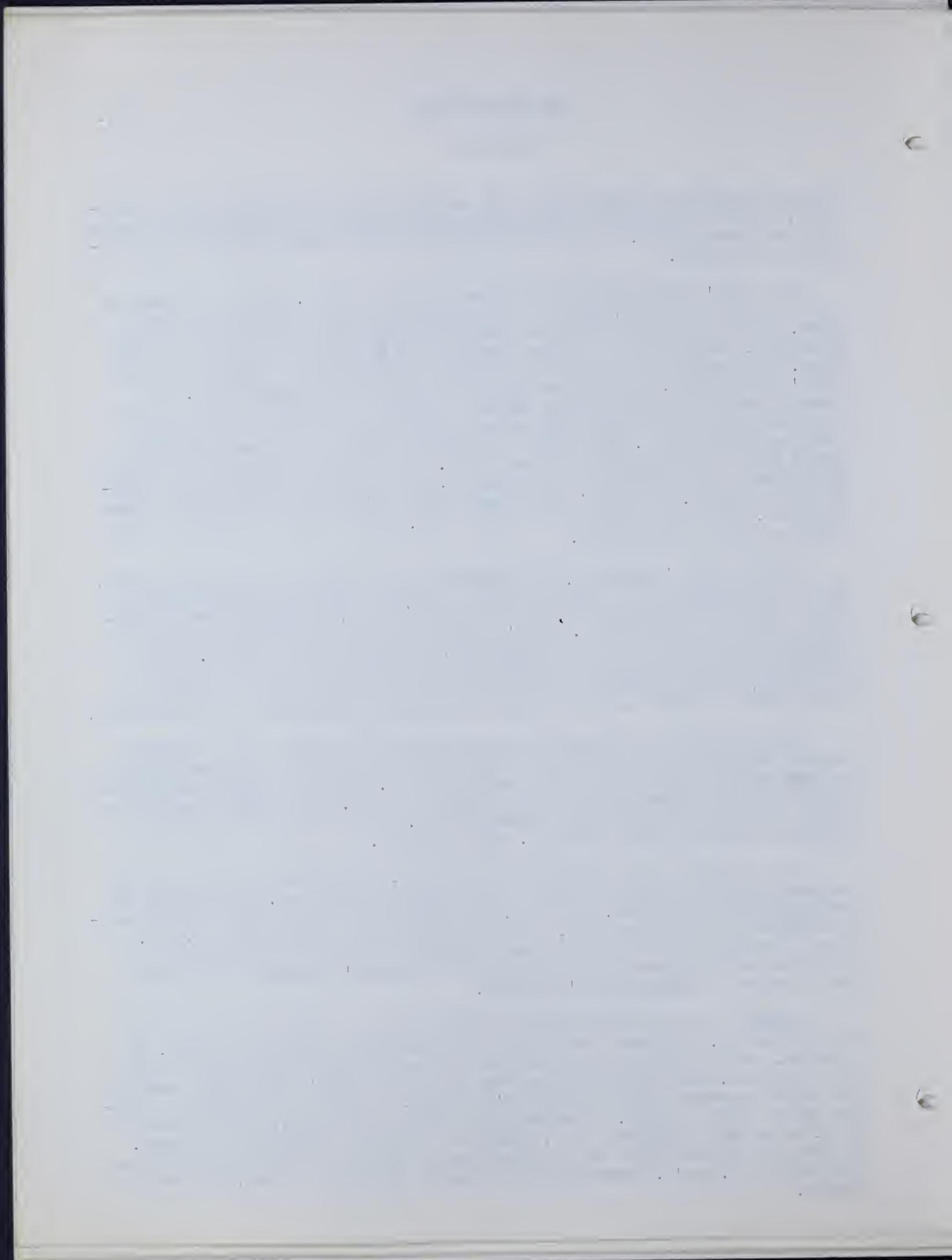
The Queen's Loyal Rangers was formed on 24 June, 1777. It was a regiment of untried men, in the main, many of them yet unarmed, but all eager to do their share. In the course of the advance, Burgoyne decided to send a force to occupy Bennington, Vermont, and to capture large stores of food believed to be stored there. For this purpose he sent a battalion of German troops, supported by the Queen's Own Rangers, of which the Camden Valley settlers formed a part. This force of untried troops left Fort Edward, crossed the Battenkill River and the Foothills into the Owl Creek Valley, stopping for the night near its entrance into the Noosick River. From thence they marched eastward, following the Walloomsac River in the direction of Bennington. Their advance was checked near North Bennington by a large force of rebel troops, and in the ensuing battle the British were defeated. The Queen's Own Rangers were badly mauled and many were taken prisoners. Fortunately, the Camden Valley soldiers were able to escape and make their way back to Fort Edward.

Colonel Peters' Rangers suffered greatly in the battle, and, six days later, on the 22 August, 1777, a large proportion of them, including Valentine Detlor and his sons, were transferred to the Loyal Volunteers, a Loyalist Company commanded by Captain Samuel McKay. McKay's Volunteers continued with Burgoyne and participated in the two battles of Saratoga, in September and October. Failure at Saratoga caused Burgoyne to retreat to a fortified position at the mouth of Fish Creek, where he eventually surrendered on October 15th, mainly because of the approach of winter and the failure of action by General Howe in New York City.

The capitulation at Saratoga was a sad blow to the hopes of the Loyalists, because they were now open to stern action by the rebels, who considered them to be traitors and easily liable to be hanged as such. General Burgoyne then advised them to attempt escape and subsequent safety in Canada. Fortunately, many did so, among whom were the soldiers from Camden Valley. There is record that McKay's Volunteers spent the winter near St. John's, Quebec.

By the terms of the capitulation at Saratoga, any soldier who served in the campaign could not again serve during the remainder of the war. This applied to the Loyalists as to others. Therefore, for a few years, these men were subsequently employed in various projects, such as building roads, fortifications, etc. There is evidence that they were formed into companies for these purposes, and Valentine and Jacob were attached to Captain Wilkinson's Company, while Samuel was a drummer in Captain Munro's Company.

By 1780, it was discovered that the rebels had not lived up to their terms of capitulation. This gave the British the right, also, to break the terms. As a result, the Loyalists who had fought in the campaign of 1777 were again formed into regiments. The Detlors, who had been in Captain McKay's Volunteers, were by now listed as members of Captain Leake's Company, as Leake had succeeded to command on the death of McKay. A nominal roll of this last company, dated December, 1778, shows that Valentine, Jacob, Samuel and John were included in its ranks. At that time Valentine was on leave in Montreal, Samuel was on duty at Sorel, and John was at St. Ann's. Peter Detlor had been discharged on 24 June, and was in Canada.



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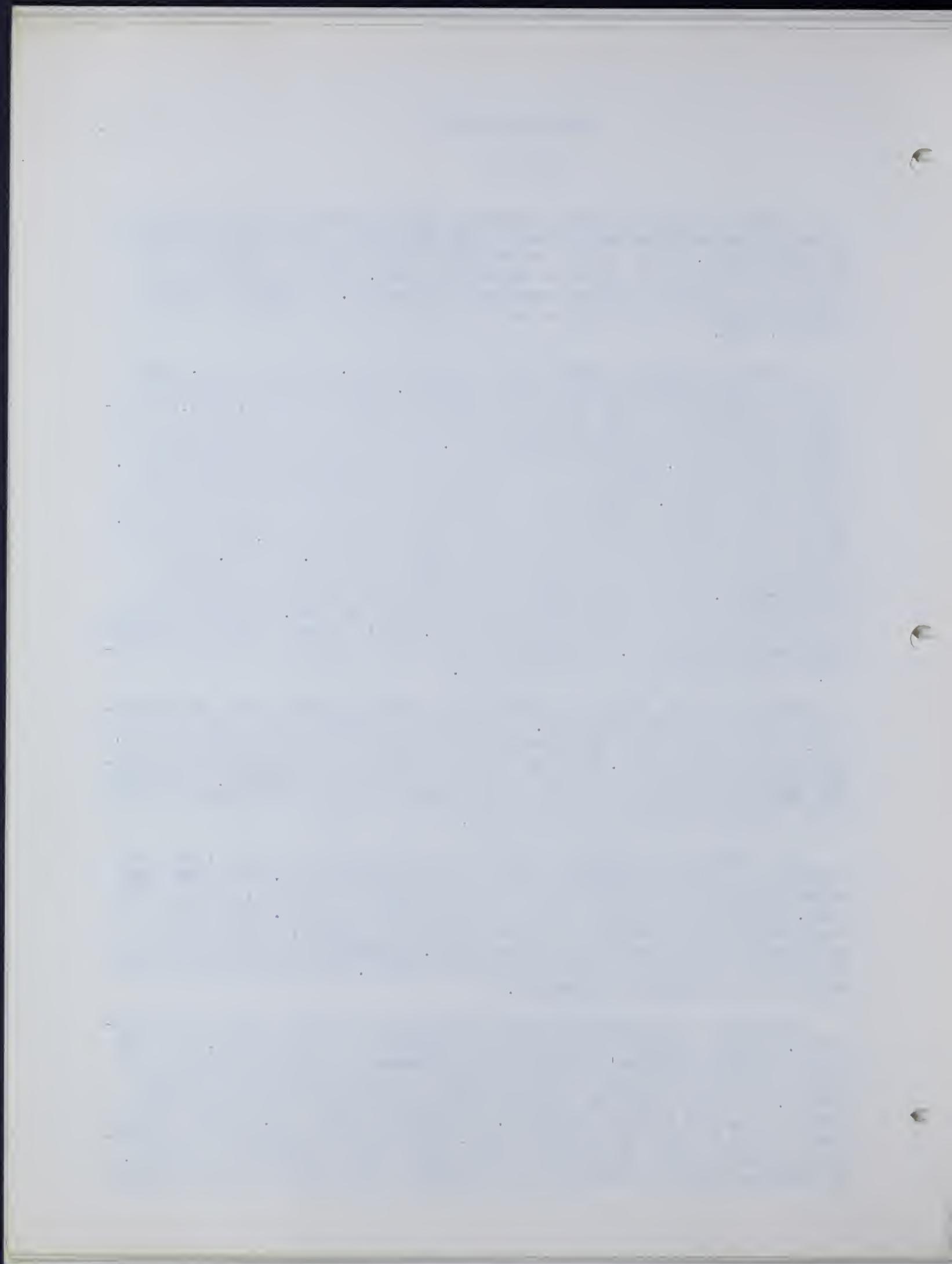
In 1781, the Loyalists were re-formed, at which time Valentine and Jacob joined the 2nd Battalion of the King's Royal Regiment of New York, commanded by Sir John Johnson, while John was serving with Captain Fraser's Company of the Loyal Rangers at the two forts on the Yamaska River. Peter, at that time, was classed as a civilian Loyalist, unsuitable for service. The Detlors remained as such until the end of the war, and their discharge from the service on 24th December, 1783.

So much for the male members of the Detlor family. What about Mrs. Detlor and the children? Unfortunately, little is known. Our first record shows Catherine and children as being with her husband in Canada in January, 1781. The records shows Catherine, with a son, likely George, over 6 years of age, two daughters over six, and one daughter under six. These last were likely Mary, Catherine and Elizabeth. Although there are no records dealing definitely with Mrs. Detlor and children before that date, we do know what happened to other women in the same position. Confiscation of estates was initiated in 1777, and it is assumed that Valentine's property was confiscated and sold during 1777 or 1778. Usually, the family was allowed the use of a cow or a few sheep, and the remainder of costs of living was taken from the husband's estate. In Sept., 1780, a law was enacted by which the families of Loyalists were ordered to proceed to their husbands. It is therefore likely that Catherine and family crossed from New York State to Canada in October or November of that year. The procedure was for flags of truce to proceed by boat from St. John's Quebec, to Fort Ticonderoga by way of Lake Champlain. The Loyalist families then boarded the boats at Ticonderoga, and the voyage to freedom was made.

During the time that these refugees were living in Quebec they were housed, clothed and fed by the Government. Admittedly the accommodations were not of the best. The fare was that of soldiers, and the accommodations were often soldier's barracks or rented houses. From the subsistence lists it would appear that Catherine and her children were housed at Lachine, a suburb of Montreal. In February 1784, Catherine is shown as being in Lachine with the same four children, as she was as late as September of the same year.

Peter Detlor is an unknown quantity in a history of the Detlors. He is not mentioned in George Hill Detlor's diary as a son of Valentine. We do know that he was living in Camden Valley, and that he enlisted in November, 1776, at Crown Point. He is shown as having a wife in 1784, without children. He may have been the eldest son of Valentine, or a younger brother or nephew. In any event, he was a Loyalist and a settler in Camden Valley. He apparently did not own land in the Valley, as he did not claim for loss of property. Further investigation may reveal his relationship to Valentine.

John Detlor, as the United Empire Loyalist List confirms, was a son of Valentine. He was a member of Captain Leake's Company in December, 1778. In a list of Captain William Fraser's Company of Loyal Rangers, 25 December, 1781, he is said to be 22 years of age, 5 feet 8 inches in height, with 4 years 5 months service. A similar report for the same company in January, 1783, calls him 23 years of age, with 7 years of service. In September, 1782, a J. Detlor, likely Jacob, was in hospital at Carleton Island, suffering from epilepsy, and is listed as a soldier in the 2nd Battalion of the King's Royal Regiment of New York. In September, 1784, he was still in the Engineers employment in Quebec Province.

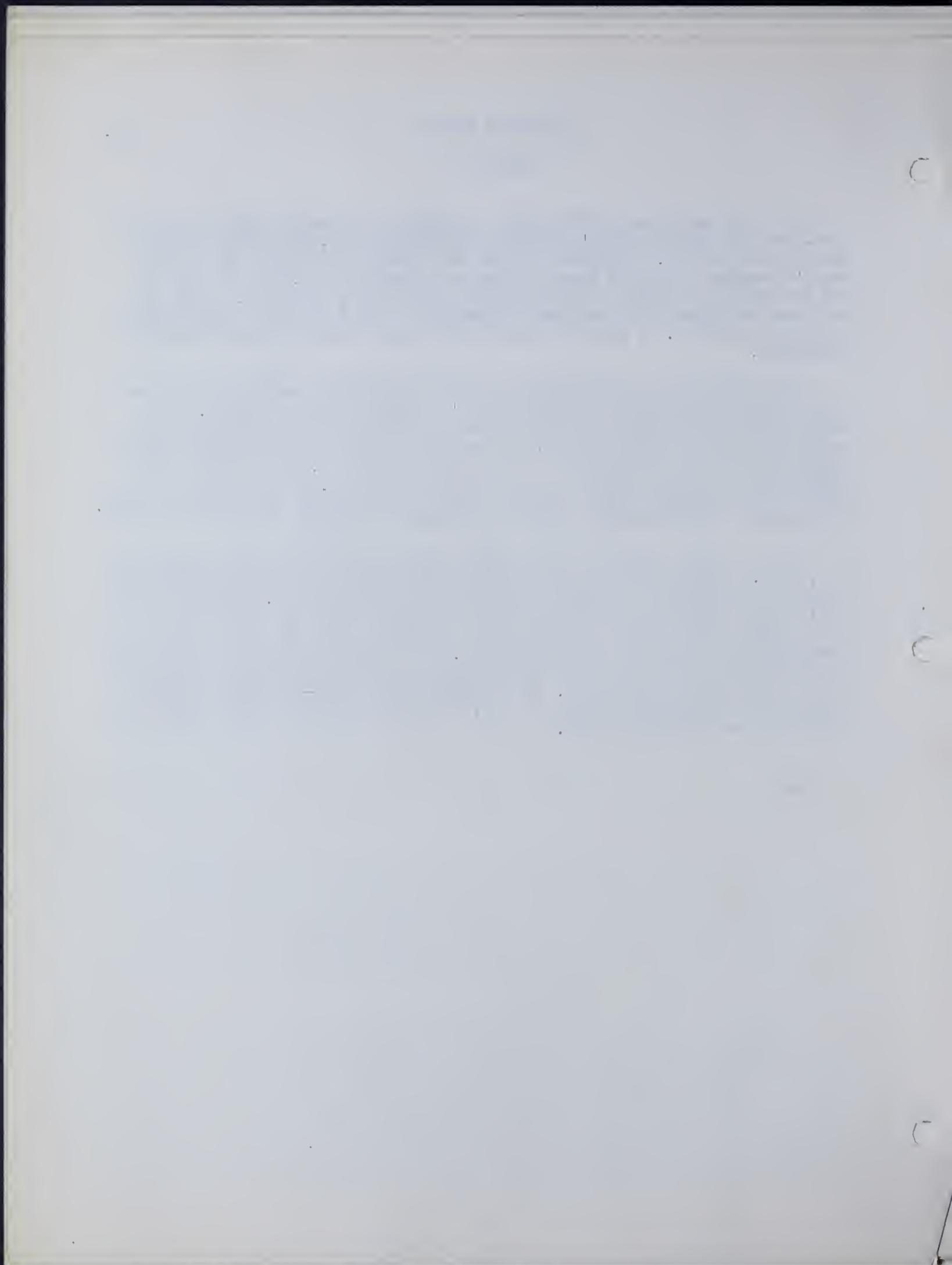


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Jacob Detlor, a son of Valentine, according to the United Empire Loyalist List, was with Captain McKay's Company in December, 1777, which means that he had enlisted in 1776. In December, 1778, he is shown as a soldier in Captain Leake's Company, which had formerly been commanded by McKay. In a list of the 2nd Battalion of the King's Royal Regiment of New York, dated Jan., 1783, he is listed as 21 years of age, born in America, 5 feet 7 inches in height, with seven years service. He was unmarried when he came to Upper Canada in Loyalist Settlement.

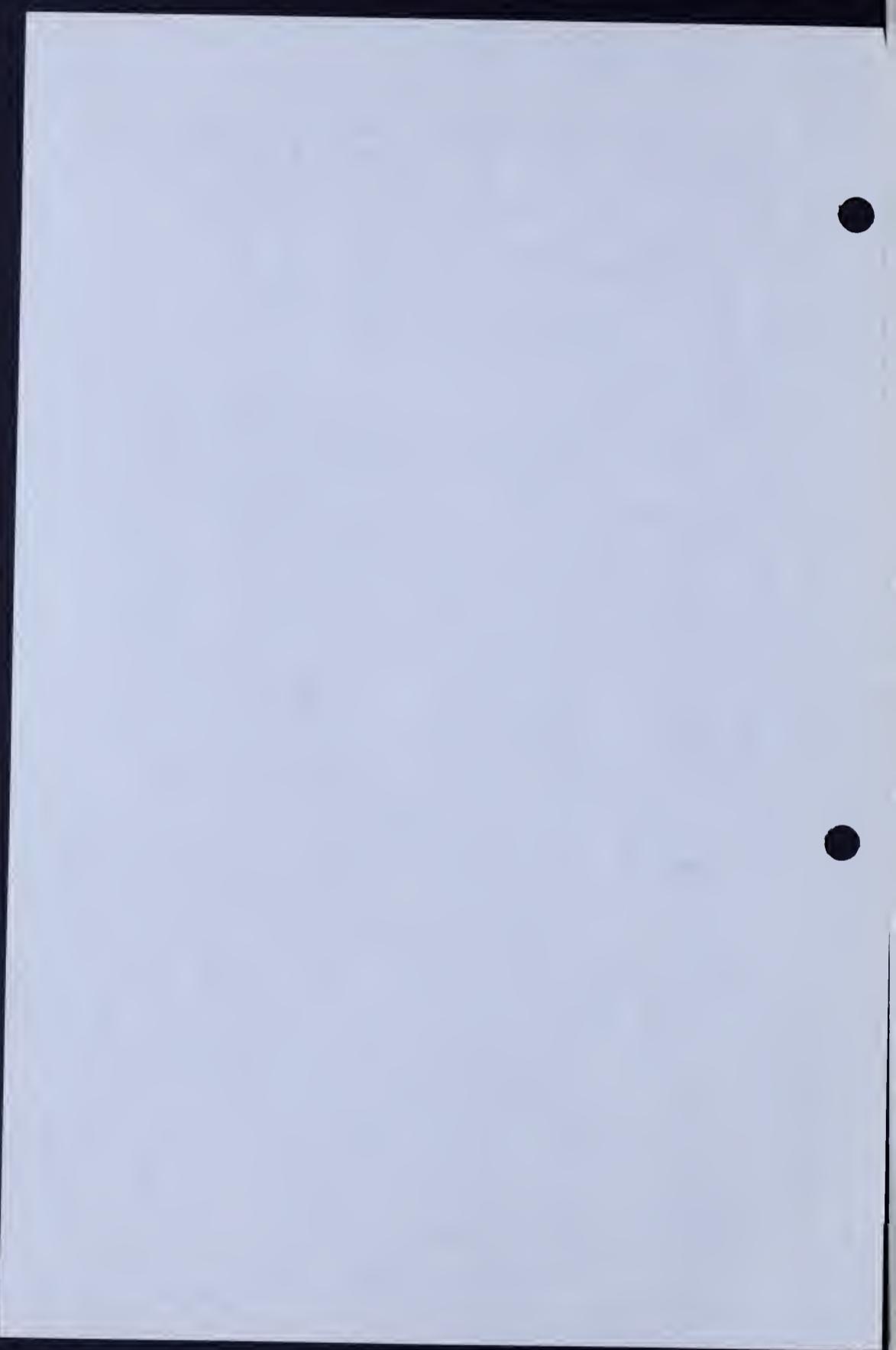
Samuel Detlor was first listed in military records in October, 1778, when he was shown as a drummer in Captain Munro's Company at Sorel, Quebec. It is not definitely known when he came to Canada, although it is very likely that he accompanied his father in 1776. He is shown to have been enlisted in McKay's Volunteers in 1777, according to a return of that Company. He is shown in the United Empire Loyalist List as a son of Valentine Detlor. He apparently is included in a subsistence list, in Feb., 1784, with his father and brother, George. The notation shows Valentine Detlor and two sons at Montreal.

The war ended, insofar as the Loyalist soldiers are concerned, on Christmas Eve., 1783, when all the Loyalist units in Quebec Province were disbanded, there to await the migration to Upper Canada in the following spring. The war had been lost; all the labor in the virgin forests in Camden Valley had been in vain; the land jobber, James Duane, was once more in possession, all the richer for the hopes and efforts of the Palatine Irishmen. And Valentine Detlor, his family and his friends were homeless people in the midst of a foreign tongue and penniless wards of the British Government. But, hopes were held out--free land was to be theirs in the wilderness of Upper Canada, and the descendant of Good Queen Anne would again be their benefactor.



Personalities

1. Capt. Samuel McKay	X 10 pages
2 The Caseys	X 5 Pages
3 The Bells	X 9 pages
4. The Nettors	✓ 15 pages
5. John Shorts	✓ 4 pages
6. The Boice Family	✓ 3 pages
7. The Comer Family	✓ 3 pages
8. The Bristol Family	✓ 7 pages
9 Brownsons	3 pages
10 The Richards Family	15 pages
11 Robert Perry	9 pages
12 David Shorey	
13 John Freeman	
14 Jean Richards	
15 Oliver Church	
15- The Deft Family	✓
	Lake



THE DETLOR FAMILY

1.

DET
LOR
P

It is generally conceded that the surname Detlor originated in the Palatinate, in Western Germany. George Hill Detlor, a grandson of John Valentine Detlor, the emigrant from Ireland, refers to his family as being of Palatine Extraction. Family tradition states that the family resided at, or near, Abbey Leix, on the estate of Lord de Vesci, in Queen's County, Central Ireland. Knittle's book, 'Early Palatine Emigration', states that a number of Palatines settled in Queen's County, near Abbey Leix.

Detlor, as a surname, is quite definitely of germanic origin. It is certainly not Irish, nor, indeed, British or Scottish. The ending er or or is common in Germany, particularly along the Rhine Valley. This ending indicates an occupation, such as Walker, Forester, etc. In French, this ending would be ier or iere, with the same meaning.

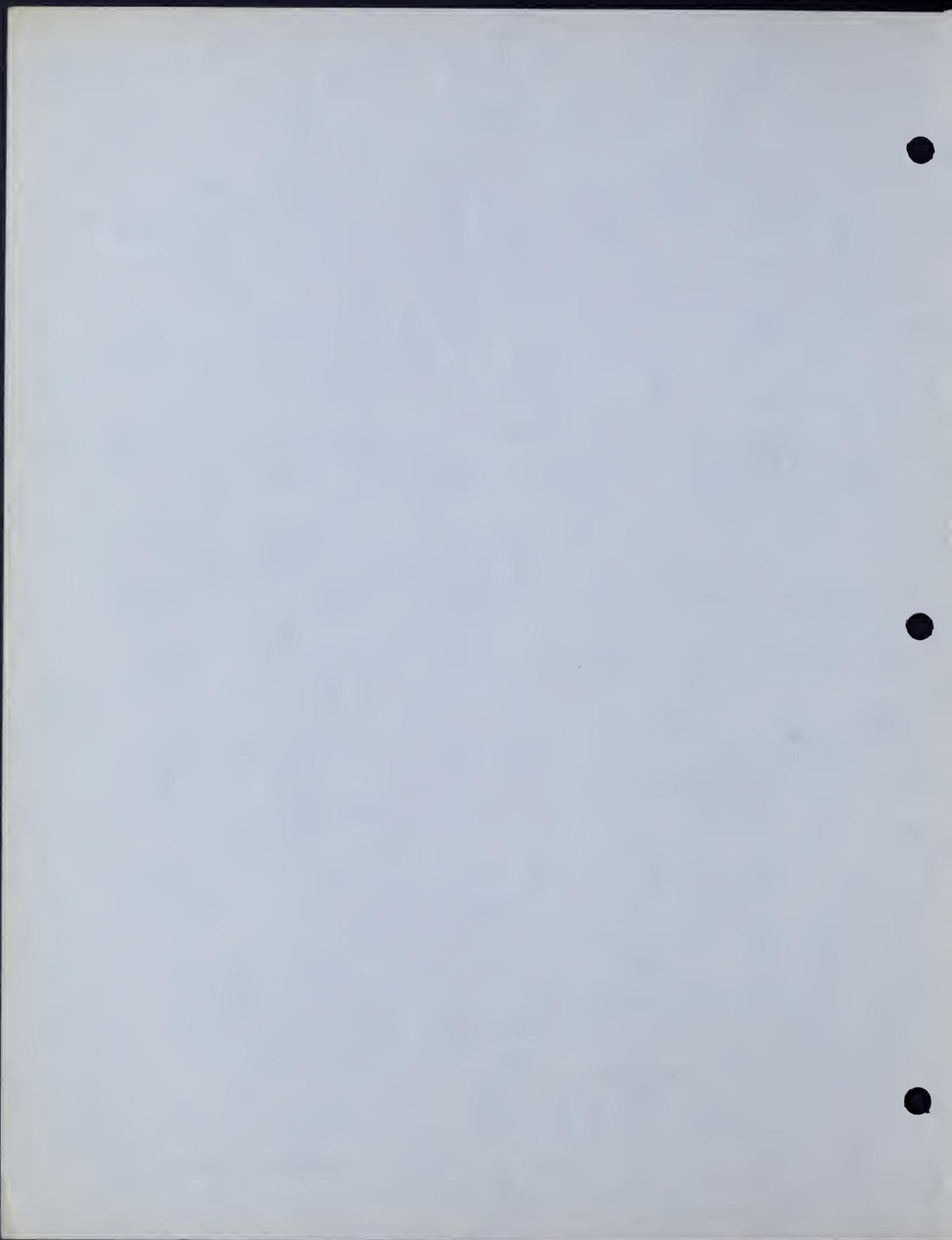
The name has been spelled in several ways. In earliest Palatine records it is spelled Dedler, or Tettler. Early Canadian records have it Buttler, Butler, Dettler and Detler. The family has invariably spelled it Detlor from the earliest times of which we have record.

The area in Western Germany from which the Palatines emigrated included the lands adjacent to the Rhine River between the Swiss border and the junction of the Moselle and Rhine Rivers, and also the vallies of the Main and the Neckar. This area comprised the Palatinate proper, as well as the districts of Darmstadt and Hanau, Franconia (including the area around the cities of Nuremberg, Bair-euth and Wurzburg), the Archbishopric of Mayence, and the Archbishopric of Treves. The districts of Spires, Worms, Hesse-Darmstadt, Zweibrucken, Nassau, Alsace and Baden are also mentioned. To this list Wurtemberg must be added, since a number of Palatines are known to have emigrated thence.

Although there was likely sporadic emigration of Palatines to neighboring countries before 1709, the so-called early Palatine emigration began in the spring of that year, when approximately thirteen thousand persons arrived in Southern England from the Palatinate and adjacent States. This movement was the beginning of the great emigration of West German peoples to various parts of the world, particularly to America in the period prior to the American Revolution.

There were several remote causes of this massive emigration of the Palatines. The most important was the more or less continuous devastation and wars within the several states along the Rhine Valley. For almost a century, beginning with the Thirty Years War in 1618, war and devastation was no stranger to these unfortunate people. The Thirty Years War began as a contest between the Protestant and Roman Catholic States in Germany and Austria, and ended as a struggle for political power in Europe. The turmoil set up by this protracted struggle led to lingering wars between the various small Germanic States. In 1674, and again in 1688 and 1689, Louis XIV of France found opportunity to devastate the small states along the Rhine, partly to vent his malice against Protestants. Again, in May, 1707, French armies invaded southwestern Germany, ruining crops, plundering communities and levying taxes.

Of less importance, but contributing to the discontent of the people, was the extremely high taxes imposed by the various German Princes, in their attempt to emulate the splendor of the Court of France. Important also was the desire of the people for lands of their own, and of the younger generation for adventure and better opportunities.



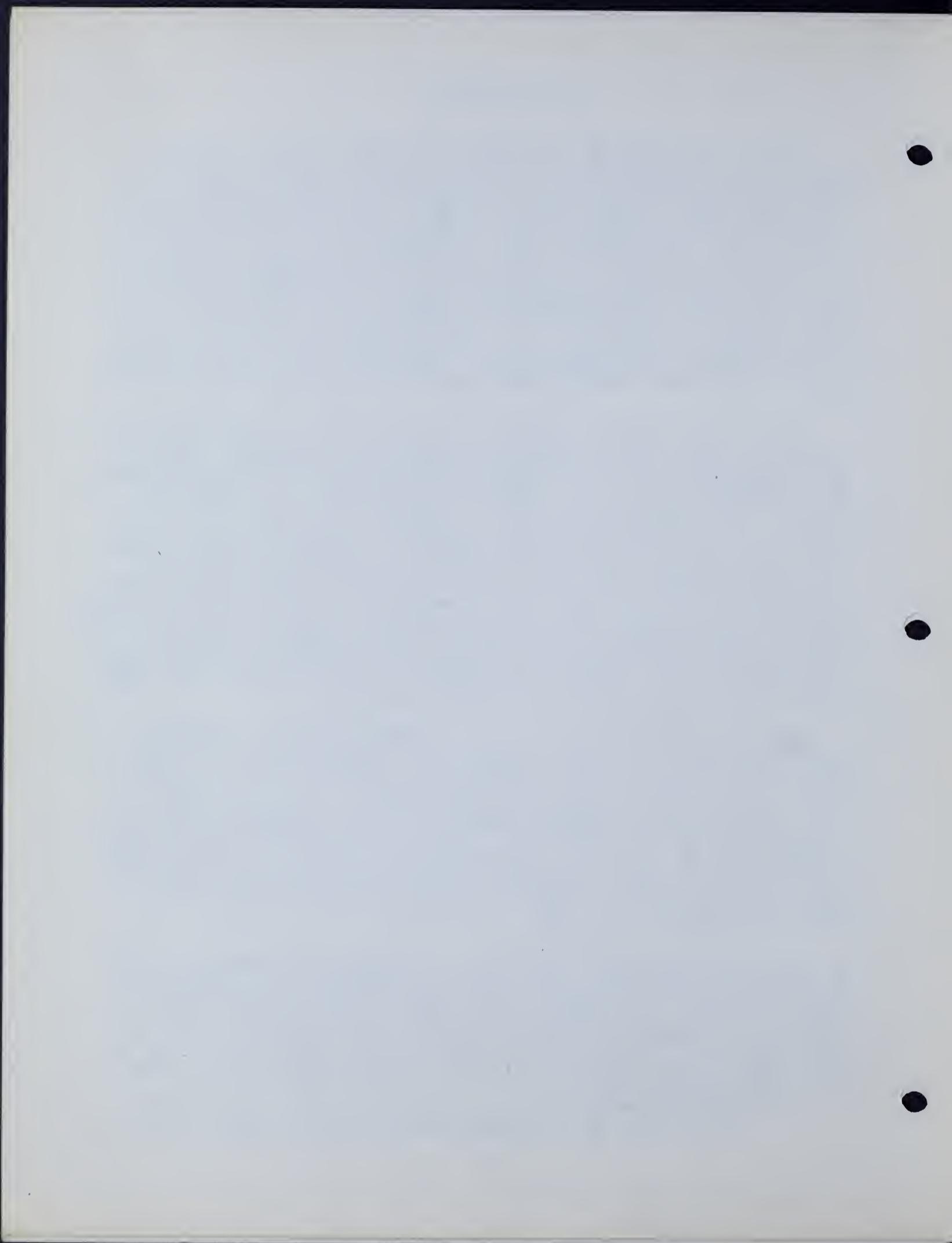
Another cause suggested, and in general accepted in eighteenth century England, was religious persecution. Certainly religious conditions were of large importance in the early eighteenth century. To ingratiate themselves with benevolently inclined people, emigrants found it convenient to plead religious persecution. Friends of the immigration in England justified their help on religious grounds, while others fiercely attacked the authenticity of the rumored persecutions. The disagreement on this point has been perpetuated by descendants of that German stock, who are reluctant to forego a lustrous prestige equal to that of the Pilgrim Fathers. Evidence that religious persecution was not an important factor in the emigration is the fact that almost one-third of the Palatines in London on June 16, 1709, were of the Catholic faith. Furthermore, of the 1770 families of Palatines admitted to England 550 were Lutherans; 693 were of the Reformed Church; 512 were Catholics; 12 were Baptists; and 3 were Mennonites.

The immediate cause of the Palatine movement was the extremely cold weather during the winter of 1708-9, the worst in a century, which placed a blight on the Palatinate. As early as the beginning of October, 1708, the cold was intense and by November 1st, it was said, firewood would not burn in the open air! In January of 1709 wine and spirits froze into solid blocks of ice; birds on the wing fell dead; and, it is said, saliva congealed in its fall from the mouth to the ground. Most of Western Europe was frozen tight. The Seine and all the other rivers were ice-bound, and on the 8th of January, the Rhine, one of the most rapid rivers of Europe, was covered with ice. But what had never been seen before the sea froze sufficiently all along the coasts to bear carts, even heavily laden. The Arctic weather lasted well into the fourth month. Perhaps the period of heaviest frost was from the 6th to the 25th of January. Then snow fell until February 6th. The fruit trees were killed and the vines destroyed. The calamity of this unusually bitter weather fell heavily on the husbandmen and vine-dressers, who, in consequence, made up more than half of the emigrants of 1709.

The idea of emigration was no new thing thrust suddenly on the Palatines. Proprietors in the British Colonies, particularly North Carolina, had already advertised throughout the western Germanic States for colonists. A few leaders among the Palatines had already visited England during the previous year to discover under what conditions emigration might take place. In fact, one small party, composed of several families, had already left the Palatinate. Queen Anne of England was very sympathetic towards the down-trodden Palatines, particularly toward those of the Protestant faith. Many British statesmen and philanthropists also favored assistance to the Palatines, so that they might find new homes in British dominions. Offers of assistance was enough to light the spark, and the great movement began to take shape.

The extremely cold winter had hardly begun to abate, when preparations were started in many homes along the Rhine River. The movement of the first contingents began in April, when boatloads of the emigrants started down the Rhine, bound for Rotterdam, in Holland, from which port the sailings were to depart for England. Before gathering up their few possessions, the head of the family had to procure a letter of recommendation from the Mayor, or other official. One of these, secured in 1709, will give an indication of the similar letters carried by the first Detlor. It reads:

Gerhart Schaeffer has lived with us in Hilgert Dorf with his housewife for 24 years and has conducted himself well and honestly, so that



all his neighbours regarded him as a faithful neighbor and were entirely satisfied with him, and the neighbors would have been much pleased if it had been God's will that he should remain longer here.

This document was signed by the Mayor, duly sealed and witnessed.

A similar letter of recommendation, although a little later in time, is in the possession of another Palatine family. It is worthy of being quoted here, as it is likely that many Palatine families started out on their emigration with a similar document in their possession. I quote:

The Bearer John Conrad Sell from Rotheu Bergen, County Assenberg, Germany, is born in a pure marriage bed with his father Caspar Sell and his mother Anna Elizabeth with their son after he was born on the 15th of December 1738 immediately the 17th of December 1738 Baptized and John Conrad named. His godfather was John Conrad Bollger from the same place with increased age is he taught even in the Christian Religion and to the Lord's Supper confirmed. His Character was always good and he could take the Lord's Supper without delay.

This Certificat is with our Church Seal
Given

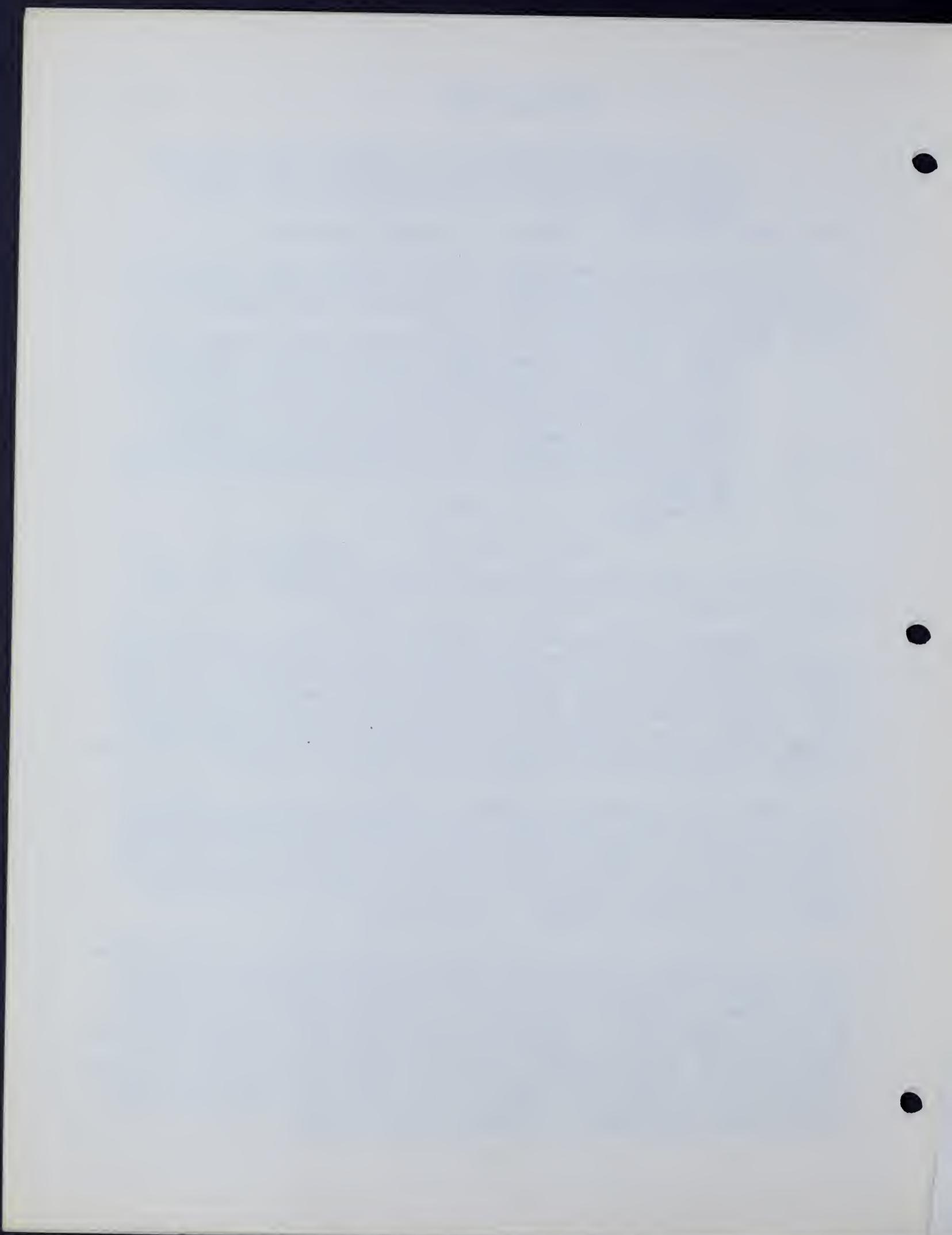
the 2 of July 1763. S.G.L.M. Keeoser
Pastor

As you will note, this document is written in English by a German, and a good deal of sympathy must be shown for his use of our language.

The voyage down the Rhine to the sea was long and tedious for the Palatine families, particularly where there were several small children, and usually lasted from four to six weeks. There were interminable delays, caused by local regulations and restrictions in the form of fees and tolls. These last caused a good deal of privation from families having ventured on the journey with insufficient funds. Provisions were soon depleted, and, if it had not been for gifts along the way of bread, meat, butter, cheese and even clothing at the hands of the kindly German and Dutch people, many would have been forced to turn back.

By April 19th nine hundred Palatines had arrived at Rotterdam. They continued to arrive, even though the Elector of the Palatinate had published an edict forbidding emigrants to leave, and even though two boatloads had been seized in the Rhine River and the passengers imprisoned. But this action did not deter the movement, and by early June they were arriving in Rotterdam at the rate of a thousand per week. By the fall more than fifteen thousand souls had made the first leg of the journey to freedom and self-respect.

It is difficult to imagine the confusion and chaos that the arrival of thousands of needy emigrants brought to the city of Rotterdam and neighboring ports. Shelter, food and transportation, as well as authority for this or that, were urgently required. Charitable organizations in Holland, Belgium and West Germany, as well as in Great Britain, solicited funds on behalf of these unfortunate people. Transportation to England was furnished by British troop ships returning from carrying soldiers to the mainland of Europe, and by any west bound packets. Private individuals also supplied transportation in some instances. As the refugees boarded ship, they were supplied with provisions for a six to eight day period, which was sufficient to last until they reached the English shore.

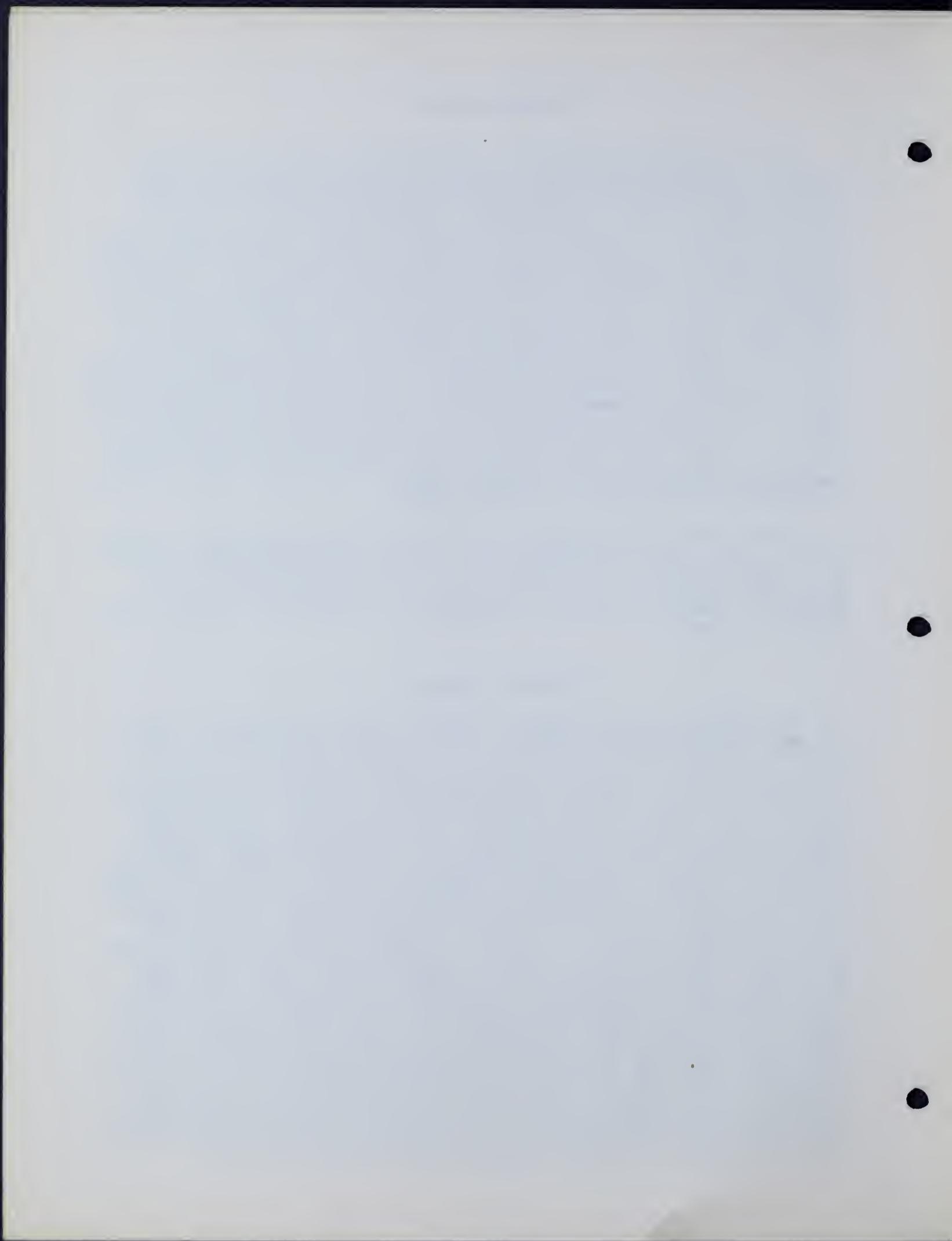


Although the English authorities, including Queen Anne, were sympathetic towards the Palatines, they were not prepared for the great exodus which had developed in 1709. There had been no concerted action with respect to disposal of the refugees. Hitherto, encouragement, by word or by deed, had come from private citizens or by government officials who had acted without official sanction. These were the persons who had intimated that there was room in the Colonies for the refugees; these were the people who had used private funds to aid the refugees in their distress. Even so, no one expected the emigration to reach such magnitude. Instead of arriving as a gentle rain, the exodus became a flood. In three months more than eleven thousand alien people had arrived in London. They flooded the squares, taverns, parks and all available refuges. So great was the need, that sixteen hundred tents were issued by the Board of Ordnance, and encampments were set up on vacant lands about the city. Barns and houses, wherever available, were rented to accommodate the refugees. As might well be expected, disease broke out in the crowded encampments. In addition, the funds of the refugees soon became exhausted, and they were dependent on such charity as the English people were able to supply. Many were forced to beg in the streets. The price of bread rose alarmingly, and the poor of London, blaming it on the Palatines, attacked the encampments, armed with scythes, axes and hammers.

Numerous attempts were made to dispose of the refugees. Settlement of small groups in various parts of England ended in failure in practically all instances. This was partially due to the antagonism of the poor of the communities, who feared that an influx of refugees would add to their own misery. Nor were the Palatines in favor of settlement in England. Their one aim was settlement beyond the seas, in America.

SETTLEMENT IN IRELAND

One suggestion which was brought forward that hectic summer of 1709 was that the Palatines should be settled in Ireland. While there would not be space for all the refugees, the idea would ease the burden, and at the same time would bolster the Protestant cause in Ireland. This suggestion of the Ministry met with the approval of several large landowners in Ireland, and by August of that year 794 families were on their way by wagon to Chester, England, where they embarked for Ireland. They landed in Ireland in September and were temporarily lodged in Dublin, where each person over fourteen received a weekly allowance of 18 pence, while those under 14 received 12 pence. By January, 1710, the number of Palatines in Ireland had increased to 3,073; steps were then taken to distribute them on various large estates where each family received a small holding of land at a rental of one third the accustomed rate, in addition to a small subsistence. In spite of what may be considered liberal terms and their destitution, almost three hundred of these families left Ireland for England by November, 1710. In February, 1711, only 188 of the 533 families were still on the land allotted to them, and the total number of Palatines in Ireland was 2057. By March 1712, the number had decreased to 263 families, a total of 976 persons. In September, 1712, 130 families were settled on the Southwell estate in Limerick, where they grew, mainly, flax and hemp. Another less well known group was settled at Abbey Leix, the Queen's County estate of the first Baronet, the Right Reverend Thomas de Vesci, Bishop of Killaloe and Ossory. These two settlements of the Palatines remain even to this day, although there has been much intermarriage with the Irish and these people have all but forgotten their Palatine ancestry, and consider themselves more Irish than the Irish.



Family tradition confirms that the Detlor family originated in the Palatinate and came to America by way of Ireland in 1756. It is, therefore, safe to assume that the first Detlor crossed the English Channel in the eventful emigration of 1709, and that he was among those Palatines who settled in Ireland in 1709 or 1710. A careful review of the shipping lists of those who crossed to England in the summer of 1709 reveals one name only which closely approximates the name now carried by this family, namely, Johan Jacob Dedler, a single person. He is assumed to be the emigrating ancestor of the Detlor family. Johan Jacob's name is not found among those Palatines who returned to Germany, nor among those who went to America at that time. It is, therefore assumed that he remained in England or went to Ireland. That he went to Ireland is most likely, as family tradition states that the family settled on the Vesci estate at Abbey Leix, in Queen's County.

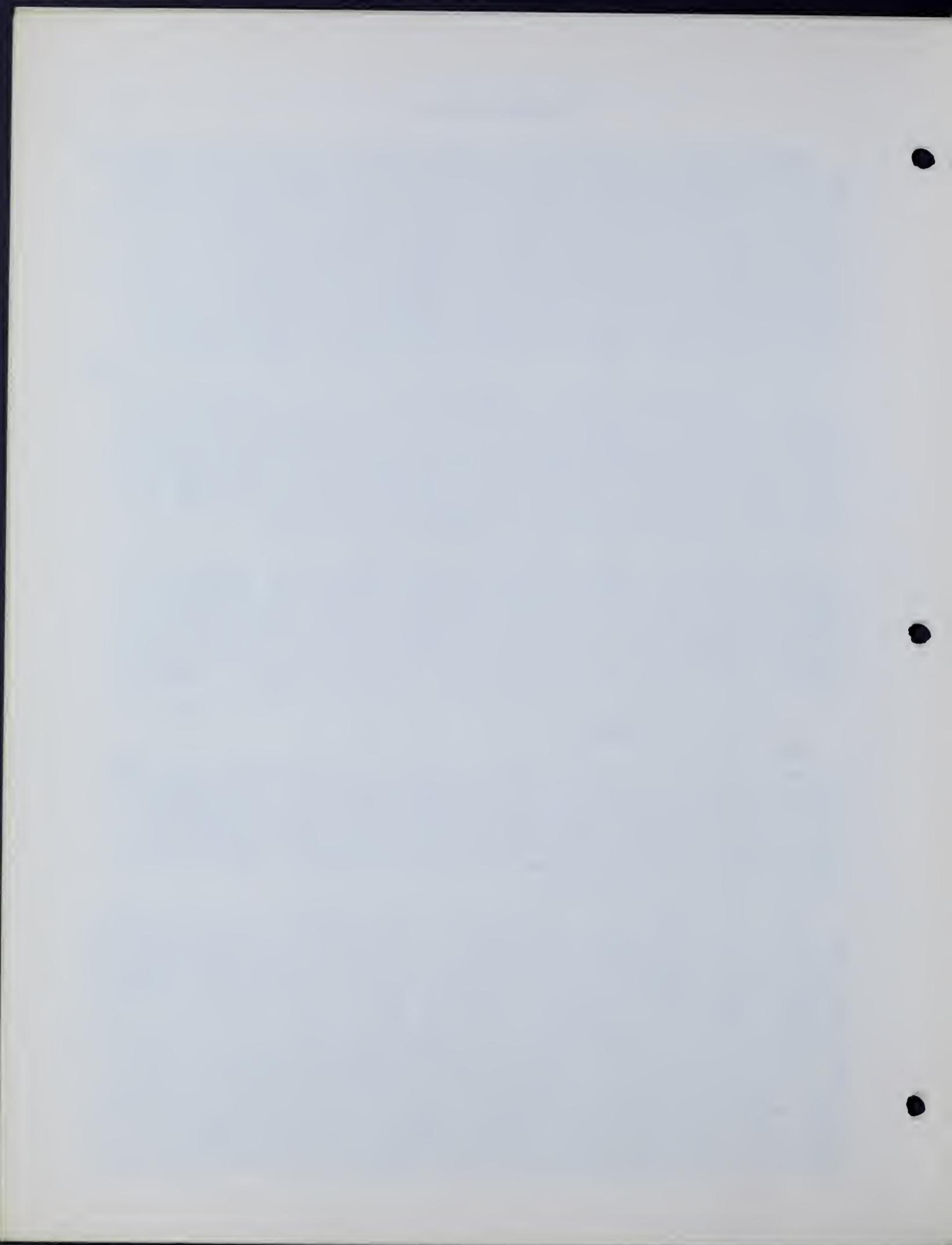
Johan Jacob Dedler is shown as being unmarried in 1709. He may have been fifteen or fifty years of age at that time. It is possible that he was in his teens and that he accompanied a married sister in the emigration. Unfortunately, very little is known of the family in Ireland between 1709 and 1756, when John Valentine Detlor emigrated to America, beyond the fact that he had lived at Abbey Leix, Queen's County. One other item is of interest, namely that in 1934 there was a family in Ireland, of Palatine origin named Tattler. Without doubt this name is a corruption of Dedler, just as Detlor was once Dedler.

If we assume that Johan Jacob Dedler was the ancestor of the Detlors of America, he, then, was either the father or grandfather of John Valentine, the emigrant of 1756. The George Hill Detlor papers state that John Valentine was born about 1735. This date does not agree with a statement which appears in the War Office Papers, which are on file in the Public Archives in Ottawa, Ontario. In these papers is found a muster roll of the 2nd Battalion of the King's Royal Regiment of New York, dated in January, 1783. This roll supplies the following:

Valentine Detlor, born in Ireland, aged 56 years, 5' 8" in height, with 7 years service.

This means that John Valentine was born in 1726, and not 1735. The Detlor papers also state that he married Catherine Hill in Ireland, shortly before emigration. If so, and if he was born in 1735, he married younger than was the custom in Ireland. Edward Carscallen, who married Catherine Hill's sister, Elizabeth, in 1754, was born about 1725, making him about 29 years of age at marriage, which agrees with the fact that Irish men married later in life than usual because of the general poverty of the people.

Johan Jacob Dedler was a single person when he emigrated from the Palatinate in 1709. If he married immediately after 1709, he might have been the grandfather of John Valentine, if the latter had been born in 1735. If John Valentine had been born in 1726, as the War Office Papers claim, then he was son, and not grandson, of Johan Jacob, seeing that only seventeen years had elapsed between 1709 and 1726. Assuming that this is true, then Johan Jacob must have been in his teens in 1709, and likely married about 1717-1725. This supposition is confirmed by the method of naming children which was prevalent in Northwestern Europe and the British Isles. By this method, the first son was named for his paternal grandfather, while the second son was named for his maternal grandfather. As John Valentine was born in 1726, some seven or eight years after his father's marriage, it is safe to assume that he was a second son, and, therefore, named for his maternal grandfather. If this is true, then Johan Jacob's wife was a daughter of a man whose given name was Valentine. A careful look through the list of Palatines for persons named Valent'



who emigrated in 1709, and who did not return to Germany or emigrate to America in 1710-11, may be listed as follows:

Eyearch, John Valentine, a single person.
Herman, Valentine, a wife and one son.
Kaldauer, Valentine, a wife, 2 sons and 3 daughters.
Presler (Bresler), Valentine, a wife, 3 sons and 2 daughters.
Kerry, Valentine, a wife and five children.
Achber (Nachber), Falenteyn, a wife and two children.
Gerhart, Valentine, a wife and five children.
Gloos, Valentine, a wife.
Grosch, Falentejn, a wife.
Scherman, Valentine, a single person.
Obber, Valentine, a wife and two children.

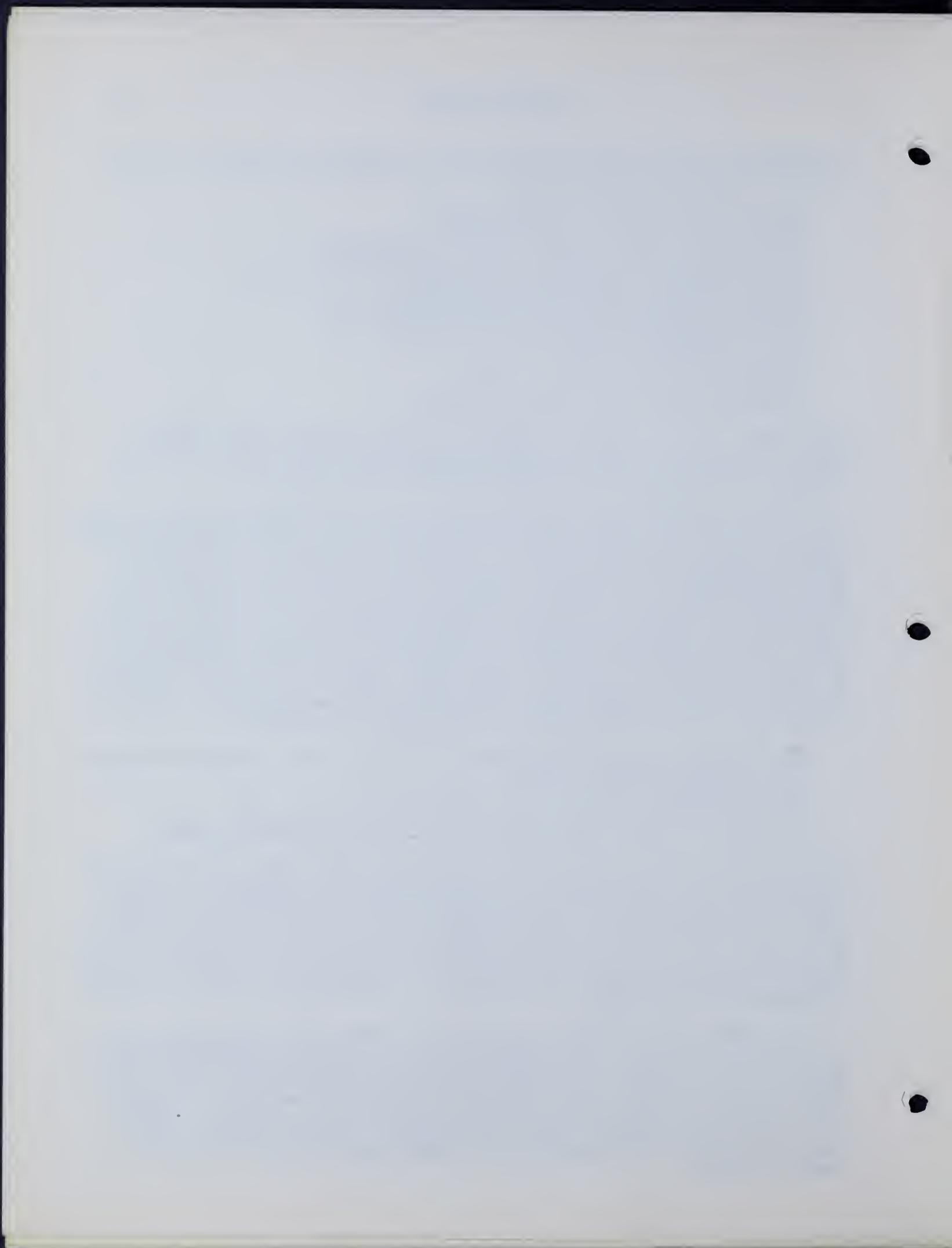
One of these persons, particularly Herman, Kaldauer, Presler, Kerry, Achber, Gerhart, or Obber, was likely the grandfather of John Valentine Detlor. Further research in Ireland will be necessary to determine the answer.

Valentine Detlor's wife was Catherine Hill, as has been recorded in the Detlor Papers of George Hill Detlor. This is not a British name, in spite of the fact that hill is an English word referring to an elevation of land. It is possible that there are families in the British Isles whose name originates from the fact that their first ancestor was a man who lived on a hill. A clue to the origin of this Hill family is found in the Carscallen family notes. Edward Carscallen, the first of the name to emigrate to America, married Elizabeth Hill, a sister of Catherine, wife of Valentine Detlor. Miss Jennie Carscallen, a descendant, made some notes as she talked with her grandmother. The information was that the name of Elizabeth was Hill, but that it originally had been Heil, and German in origin. A review of the lists of Palatines who emigrated to England in the summer of 1709 reveals the following names which closely approximate the word Heil, or Hill:

Heyll, Balser, and wife and 5 children. This R.C. family returned to Germany.
Heyll, Mattheye Jurg, and wife.
Hiel, Rudolph, and wife.
Heil, Hans Jacob, a single person. Later removed to New York.
Hill, John, wife and 2 children. This R.C. family returned to Germany.

It will be seen that the only persons of the name who could have been the ancestor of Elizabeth and Catherine Hill were Mattheys Jurg Heyll or Rudolph Hiel. However, Heyll would be more likely, as the 'ey' of Heyll would be pronounced as a long I, while the 'ie' of Hiel would be pronounced as a long E. If this be so, then it is most likely that Mattheys Jurg Heyll was parent, or grandparent of the Hill sisters. Mattheys Jurg and wife, not having children in 1709, can be considered as a young married couple at that time, and therefore it is likely that they were the parents of Elizabeth and Catherine.

Carscallen family history reveals that Edward Carscallen, who married Elizabeth Hill, was a soldier before marriage. His marriage to Elizabeth took place in Ireland in 1753, possibly at Abbey Leix or at Limerick. Their first child, a son, John, was born in August, 1754. Assuming that Edward had completed his military service by 1756, and assuming the urge of the Palatines to emigrate to America, it would be natural for the matter to be considered, seeing that Edward was once more a civilian, and that Catherine, the younger sister, was now the bride of Valentine Detlor.



Life in the New World

The second stage in the transportation of the Detlor family from the banks of the Rhine River to the more permanent home in Ontario began in 1756, when, it is said, Valentine Detlor sailed from Ireland to New York.

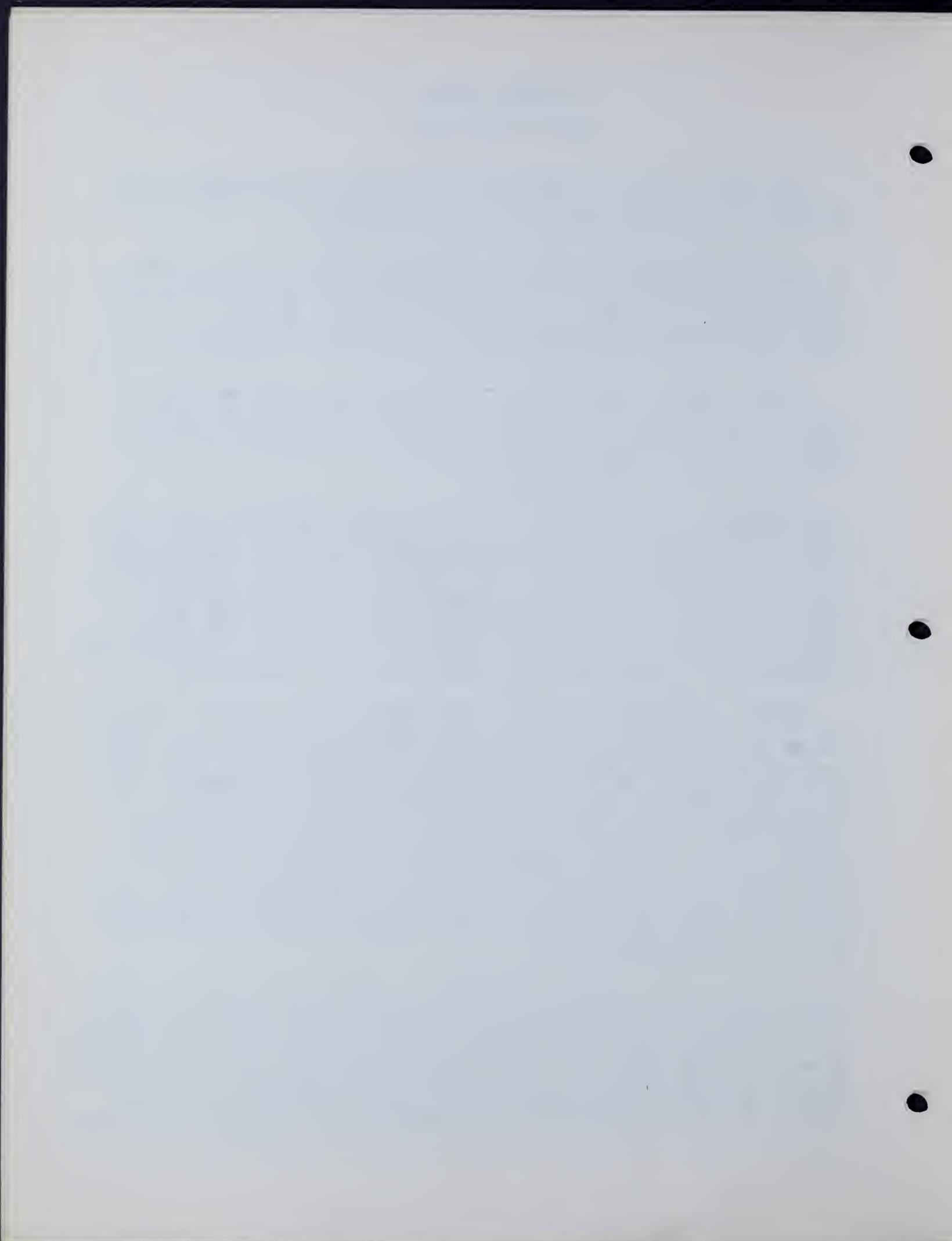
It is most unfortunate that there is at present little or no documentary confirmation regarding his emigration and subsequent life in the American Colonies, and that reliance must be placed upon family traditions, which, in the different branches of the family, are sometimes contradictory. Thus it is that any account of this period must be considered open to subsequent changes, if, and when, contemporary documents disprove statements at present considered to be true.

Family tradition claims that Valentine Detlor married Catherine Hill, and that either Valentine or Catherine had lived at, or near, Abbey Leix, Queen's County, Ireland. There is some doubt as to when and where they were married, although the consensus of opinion is that the ceremony took place in New York shortly after their arrival in America.

Nor is there definite information as to the port of departure from the Old Land, although it is assumed to be in Ireland--likely Limerick, from whence subsequent Palatines sailed to America, Cork, or Dublin. The year is given as 1756, both by the Carscallens and the Detlors. Edward Carscallen had married Elizabeth Hill in 1753, and their son, John, born in 1754, was a small child when the family emigrated. Edward and Elizabeth were accompanied on the voyage by the latter's sister, Catherine, then single. Valentine Detlor was on the same boat, and it is most likely that he and Catherine, his future wife, met for the first time as they were about to sail for the New World. Friendship must have ripened into love during the long voyage and the intimacy so unavoidable in a small sailing vessel.

Diaries of voyages during colonial times supply a very interesting picture of life at sea, such as these people must have experienced. As a rule, these sailing vessels were of less than one hundred tons in weight, more likely fifty, or even less. The price for the passage covered sleeping accommodation and a basic fare which usually amounted to seven pounds of bread, biscuits, flour, oatmeal or rice per week per passenger, as well thirty-five pounds of potatoes twice weekly, and three quarts of water per diem. In addition, passengers usually brought along a supply of fresh food which was exhausted long before the voyage was completed. Cooking was done on a grate, or fireplace, about fifteen feet in length, which was fastened to the ship and which moved with the motion of the boat, much to the misery of the cook, particularly if seasick. Pots and kettles were hung over this swaying fire, and cooking was a slow process. In many instances the voyage lasted so long that food supplies ran out, and passengers were in a starving condition by the time land was reached.

A possibility which cannot be ignored is that Edward Carscallen and Valentine Detlor may have come to America as soldiers. The Seven Years' War, which resulted in the conquest of French Canada, broke out in 1755, the year before the emigration of the Carscallens and Detlors to America. Several British regiments were dispatched to America in 1756, under the command of General Abercrombie. One of these, the 35th (Royal Sussex), originally the Irish Corps, was raised in Ireland in the time of King William III, and served continuously in Ireland for 48 years. In addition, the 42nd, the 44th, and the 48th, saw extensive service in America at the same time.



Life in the New World

Be this as it may, Detlor family traditions do not mention military service. Indeed, there is a great silence respecting the period from 1756 to 1770, when the settlement in the Camden District took place. One can only assume that, with other Palatines from Ireland, the Detlors resided in or near New York City during this period. Certainly, the Carscallens lived in that city, where, it is said, the father employed his time in the weaving industry, as Detlor may have done. Both families remained in New York until 1770, when they, in conjunction with several other Palatine families, removed to Camden Township, in Northern New York, to establish themselves on virgin land.

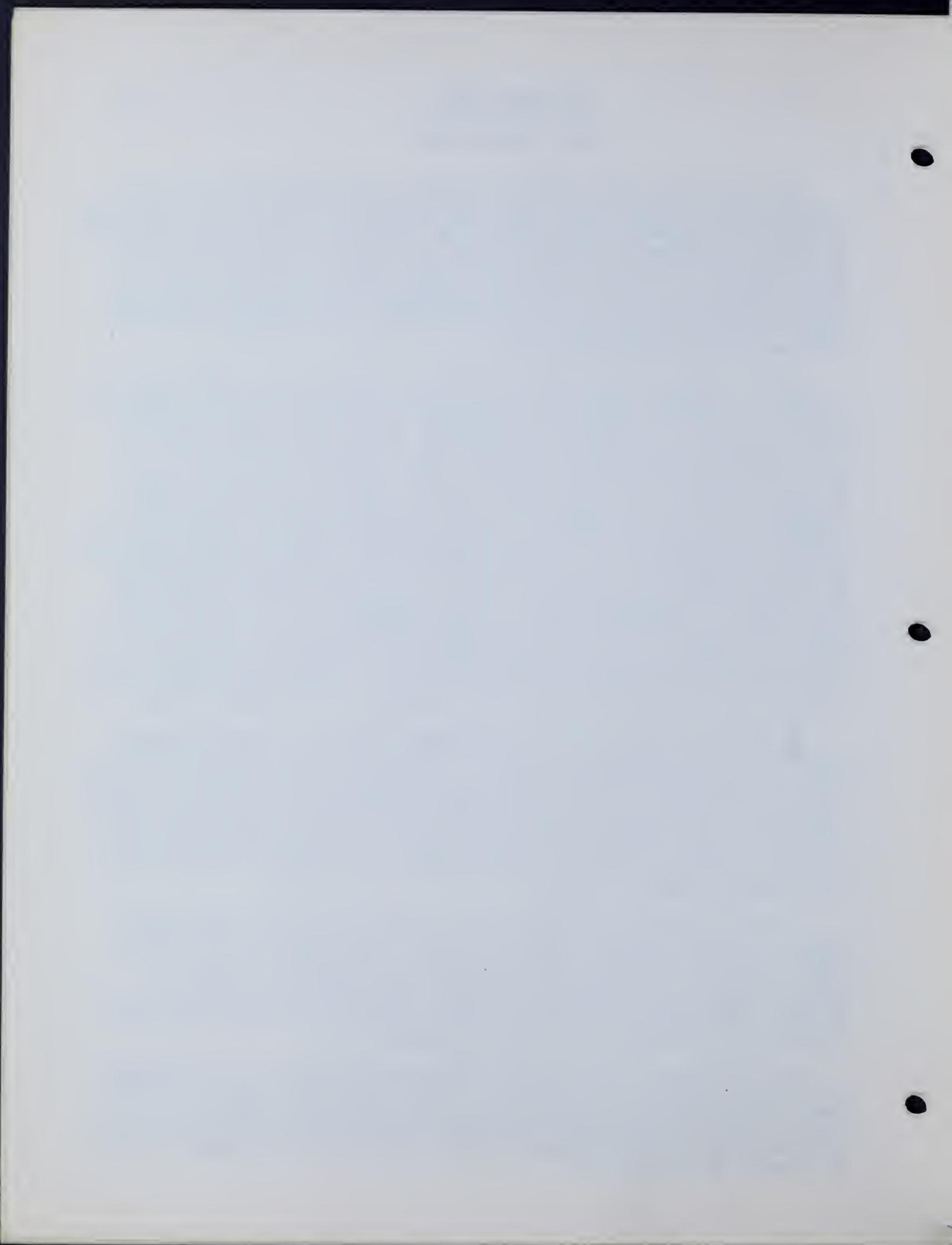
Other Palatine families from Ireland followed the Detlors and Carscallens to New York. The Emburys, Dulmages, Shiers, Hoffmans, Hecks, Switzers and Gieirs came in 1760, and all these families, bound together by cultural and marital ties, formed a closely-knit group in the hodge-podge of New York. There was unity also in religious belief. They clung to their Lutheran affiliations during the more than fifty years since their emigration from the Palatinate, and it was only in the last few years of their stay in Ireland that there was any change in their religious outlook. In the summer 1760, a group of Palatines from the vicinity of Limerick, including the Emburys, Hecks and Switzers, arrived in New York, where they affiliated with those who had crossed the ocean a few years before. This group had been influenced by the teachings of John Wesley in Ireland, and, as might be expected, carried the seeds of Methodism to the New Land. A Methodist class was formed under the influence of Philip Embury and Barbara Heck. This class was the nucleus from which grew the Methodist Church in America, and its first church, St. John's, in New York. The Detlors, among others, had the honor of being members of this first Methodist class and Methodist Church in America. This humble venture prospered, and in the 1760s Philip Embury, with the assistance of his congregation erected the first Methodist Church in the New Land. It was finished in 1768.

There is, unfortunately, little documentary evidence of the activities of the Palatines in New York. It is known that they, through their leaders, Philip Embury and the Hecks, applied for lands on two occasions, in 1763 and again in 1765.

In one instance it was for the so-called Embury-Wilson Patent of 2300 acres in the vicinity of Ashgrove, now in Washington County, New York, some fifty miles northeast of the City of Albany. These applications were refused, and it was not until 1770 that the group succeeded in obtaining lands for settlement. These lands were in what is now Washington County, New York State, near Ashgrove, where the group had previously attempted to settle.

It was the custom, in colonial days in New York Province, to grant large tracts of land to influential persons. These, in turn, leased the land to small holders who paid the rent in produce. In addition, especially on the borders, grants were made to discharged soldiers, particularly after the conquest of Canada. Few of these soldiers were inclined to become farmers or pioneers. So, in the main, land jobbers or influential persons bought up the soldier's lands for a song, and rented portions out to those in need of land.

It was from such a person, namely James Duane, a lawyer, that the Palatines bargained to purchase a block of land in Camden Valley, which Duane had purchased from a group of discharged soldiers. This block, amounting to 8550 acres, lay in what is called the Camden Valley Patent. Its southern border was six miles to the northeast of the hamlet of Ashgrove astride a small stream. It extended ten miles to the north from that point.



Life in the New world

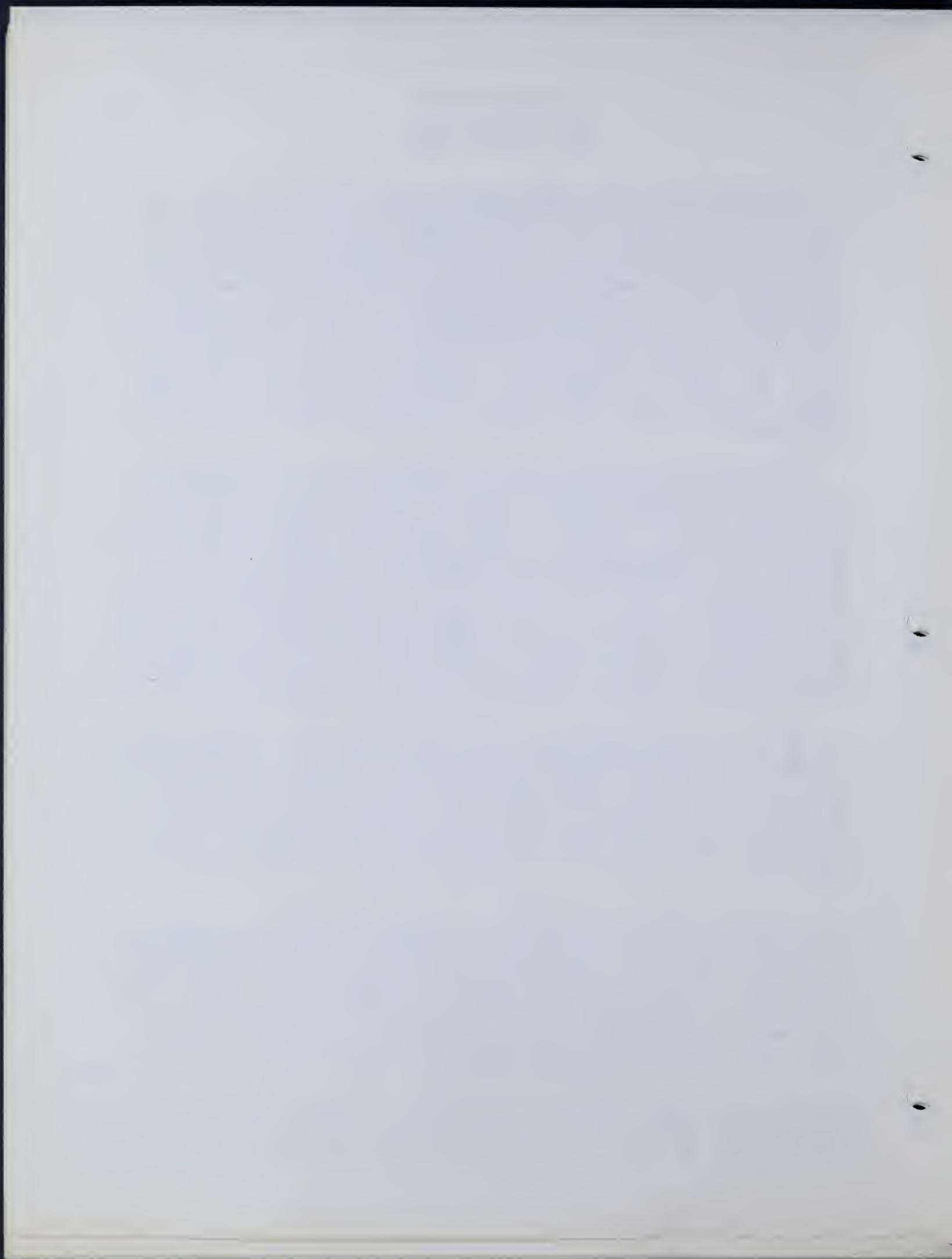
The Camden Valley Patent contained 8550 acres, partly valley land, with its over-shadowing hills. Not more than 2500 acres were arable, as a visit to the Valley will confirm. This was the land to which the group of Palatines came in the summer of 1770, after a boat journey up the Hudson River from New York and an overland trip of more than fifty miles from the neighborhood of Albany to the virgin lands which had been leased from Lawyer Duane. The individual leases which were executed in 1770 have been lost. There is, however, a subsequent group lease, dated May 1, 1773, which has been preserved, and is in the possession of Mr. William Eadie, now residing on the farm once possessed by Philip Embury. It is an agreement between James Duane of the first part and Philip Embury, David Embury, Paul Heck, John Dulmage, Edward Carscallen, Peter Sparling, Valentine Detlor, Abraham Binninger, Peter Miller, Nathan Hawley, farmers, and Elizabeth Hoffman, widow, in trust for her children, all of West Camden, parties of the second part.

The arable land in Camden Valley was apportioned out to these lessees in accordance to their wishes. Loyalist claims of many of these persons, made in 1787 and 1788 for loss of property, supply information regarding the amount of land so leased, with the rentals. Paul Heck leased 250 acres, at an annual rental forever of 3 pence per acre. Garret Miller bought Peter Sparling's right and interest in the Valley for 110 pounds, and had paid between thirty and forty pounds on the principal. John Lawrence claimed, in right of his wife, the widow of Philip Embury, regarding the latter's share, which was 188 acres leased forever for 6 pence per acre. Edward Carscallen's share was 350 acres, for himself and his family, on a lease forever at 6 pence per acre. Valentine Detlor's share was 312 acres on the same condition and annual rental. John Dulmage, however, had 200 acres, but his rental was only 3 pence per acre, likely because none of the land was cleared or because it was not so arable. John Embury's share was 125 acres.

During the first three years of this infant colony these pioneers worked hard at clearing some arable land. Heck noted that he had 42 acres cleared; Miller had between 12 and 13; Lawrence had 45; Carscallen had cleared 50 acres; Detlor reported 25 acres cleared, while Dulmage had 35 and Embury had only fifteen. At the same time money from the rent was hard to come by, and many were in arrears. This occasioned a new agreement with respect to payment, and Duane agreed to being paid in wheat at the rate of 6 lbs per acre. Even this was of no avail in the face of the civil war which involved the Valley in three short years to come.

The seeds of Methodism continued to be nourished in the new settlement. Embury organized the first Methodist Class in 1771, which held its meetings from house to house. The first church, built at Ashgrove, was burned by a fanatic, and the second was built at Sandgate, further down the valley. Later still, after the sudden death of Philip Embury as he labored in the fields of his brother-in-law, Peter Switzer, a new church was built in Cambridge, New York, in which there is a fine memorial to Embury. At the site of the first church there is a plaque, which reads: "Site of the Ash Grove Cemetery and second Methodist Church in the United States, organized by Irish Methodists under Thomas Asston and Philip Embury".

It was not enough that these hardy farmers faced the development of productive farms on rocky, hillside farms at, for them in their destitution, high rentals. Before they began to reap any benefit from their labors, the peace of



Life in the New World

the Valley was disrupted by Civil War, pitting neighbor against neighbor and dividing families for centuries to come.

It is unfortunate that, at the moment, there is so little recorded about the story of Camden Valley. The Rev. W. Bowman Tucker, M.A., Ph.D., wrote a book, or pamphlet, on "The Camden Valley". Unfortunately, I have not been able to obtain a copy. Also, Mrs. Eula (Carscallen) Lapp, Meaford, Ontario, proposes to put the history of the Valley into an article.

Civil War

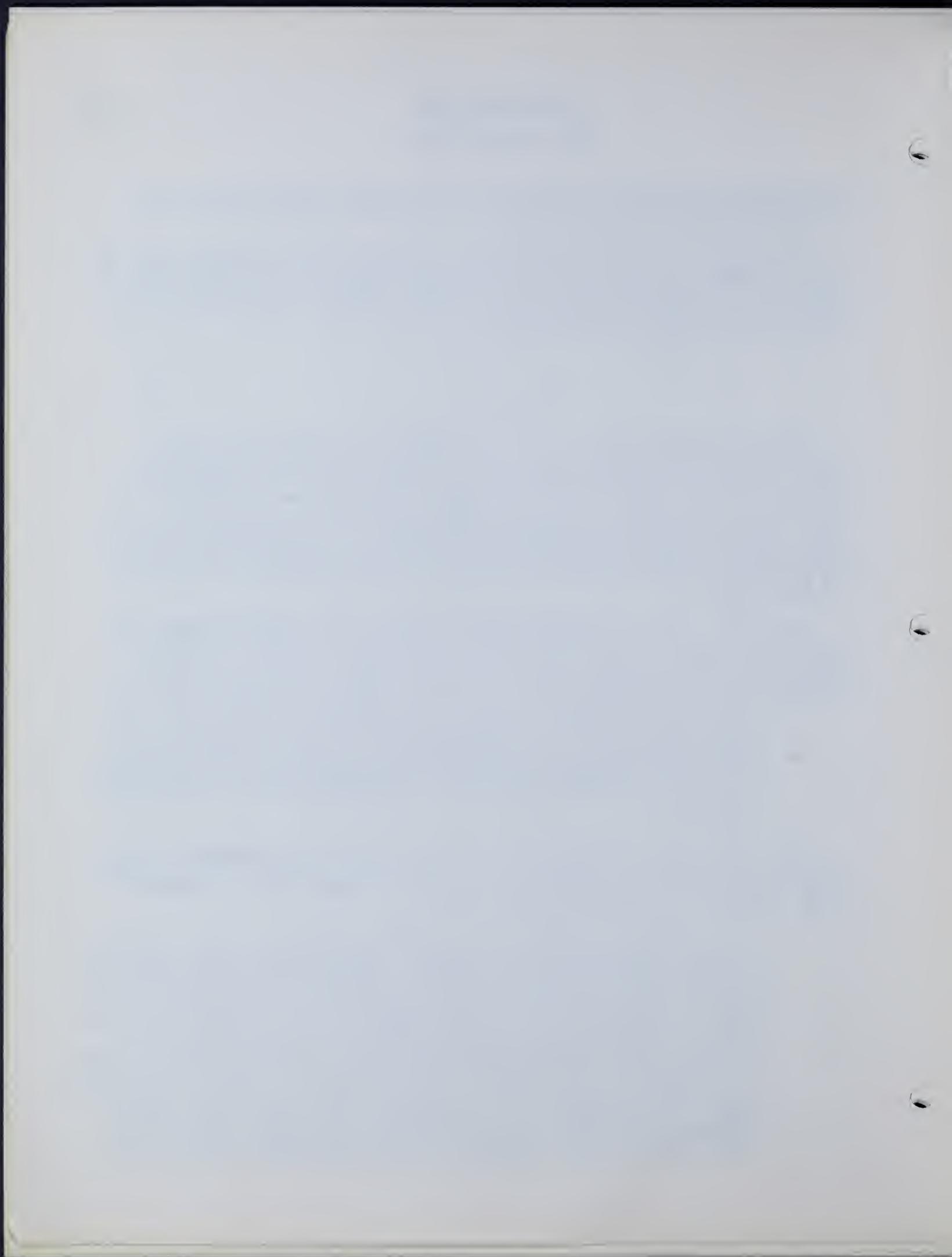
Even as the first settlers of Camden Valley were spending their waking hours in clearing the virgin lands, the first faint rumblings of impending civil war was casting its shadows across the valley, and mountain background. A war that was to cleave brother from brother. A war that was to bring out the worst in man, slaughter in the dark of night, massacre and scalping in the forest glades, tarring and feathering, incendiaryism casting its lurid brightness against sky and forest by day and by night, women and children left to defend the hearthstone against marauding bands, with everyone a loser, both in decency and self respect.

The causes of the American Revolution stem from the conquest of Canada. In this struggle to throttle the French who had waged an intermittent war on the American colonies, the cost of maintaining the struggle had fallen largely on the British people in Europe, with the benefits going to the colonies who were free from attack. As Bradley puts it in his book, 'The United Empire Loyalists';

The colonists, from New England to the Carolinas, lit bonfires, rang bells, and fired off their guns in their triumphant exuberance, while orators from pulpit and rostrum celebrated the glorious achievements of the British Empire, and even more fervently perhaps, if less loudly, thanked heaven for the removal of the French terror and the French fur traders.

But, when it came to paying for the cost of the war which brought peace and expansion to the American colonies, and had cost them so little in men and money, there were harsh words when the Home Government considered that the colonies should help bear the costs. As Bradley put it;

Now the British taxpayer had been heavily laden by the Seven Years' War in Europe and America, and was growing restless. He had borne nearly all the expense of clearing the French out of North America and placing the hitherto hampered colonists in an improved position with a great and unclouded future.....That these colonies should now bear all or part of their own land defence was surely equitable. In truth, they frankly accepted it as such. They could hardly have done otherwise, loth as most of the Colonial legislatures had always been to vote money for any purpose, particularly, it may be noted, the salaries of their Governors. And now began a long wrangle as to the proportions which each of the thirteen Provinces was to contribute, for their own stipulations ran that they were to vote the money themselves without interference from the Crown.



Civil War

Then began a prolonged period of dissension on the part of the various colonies, New England claiming that it had borne a greater part in the struggle than had the others. Bradley put it this way:

This sort of thing went backwards and forwards between the different colonies, all of them recognizing their share in the responsibility, but in hopeless disagreement as to their respective contributions. It soon became apparent that they would shuffle out of it altogether, and leave the heavily burdened British taxpayer to bear the sole expense of their military as well as naval defences. This, in fact, actually, happened. It is true that the defence of the colonies, whose safety without it would not have been worth a month's purchase, was a leading argument for the Navigation Laws. But the late war had given the Americans both a welcome relief from a troublesome neighbor, and an unclouded future. Their own taxation, though much increased, was trifling compared with the burden that the British taxpayer, partly on their account, was called upon to bear. Lastly, the sum of money asked for was not sufficient to defray even the whole cost of the proposed defensive force. It is no wonder that the British Government grew irritable.

And now the first mutterings of the predicted storm were heard in the land. Despairing of getting assistance for their own defence out of the colonies, England passed the Stamp Act in 1768 to provide at least a portion of the money. The storm it caused, as we all know, its ultimate repeal, with rejoicings that evoked renewed professions of loyalty in most quarters.

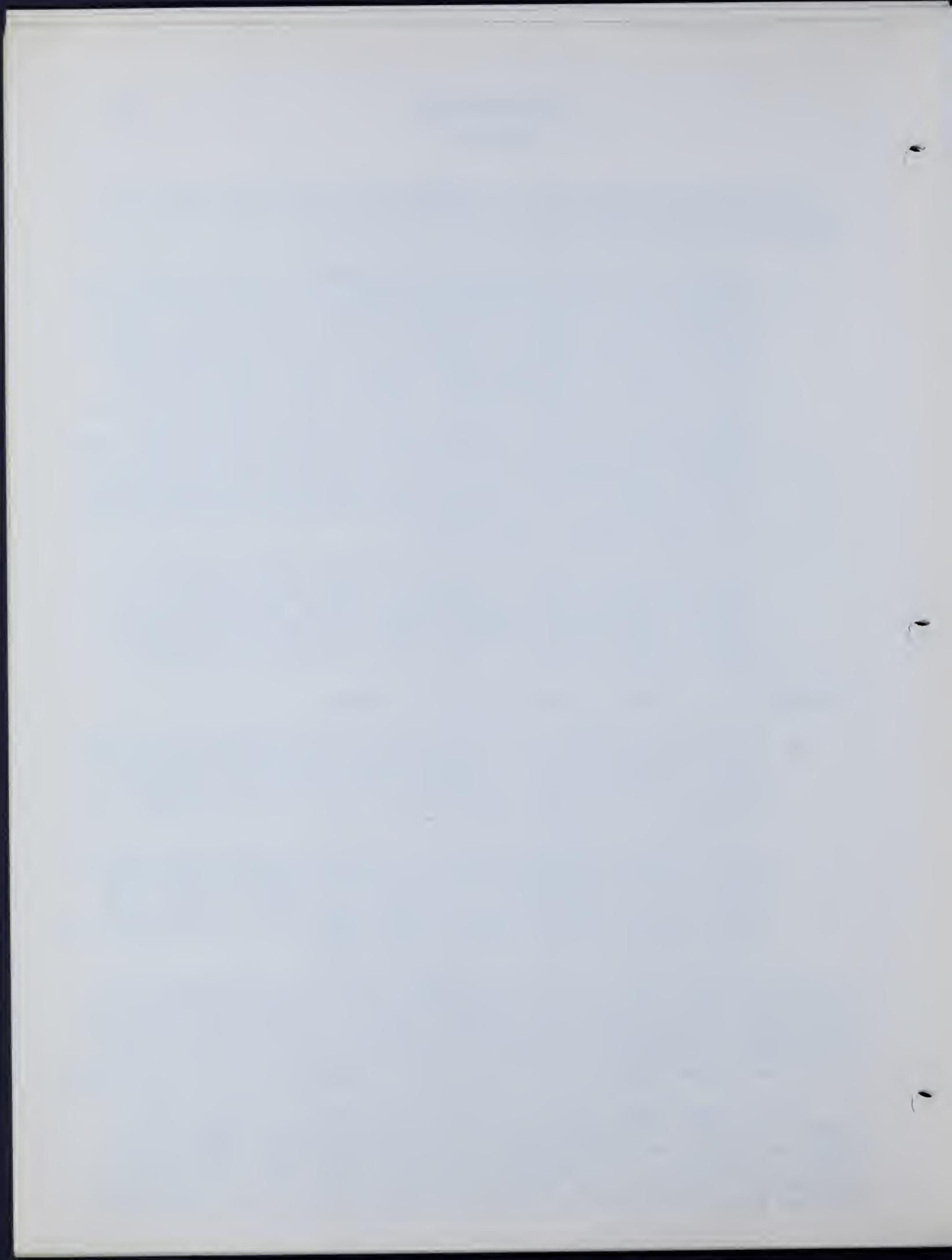
One thing led to another. Once more quoting from Bradley:

The Boston populace and in truth most of the colonists, hated soldiers. That the latter had freely shed their blood in ridding the former of the French in the late war, was nothing to these folks with the rowdy mob instinct in their blood.....The Boston roughs, rather grotesquely termed 'patriots', never let them alone.

The "Boston Massacre" also ranks with a careless and credulous posterity as an instance of British brutality. A crowd was engaged in the popular pastime of throwing missiles at an unoffending company of soldiers. One of the latter, in exasperation or by mistake, let off his musket, which gave his comrades the impression that the order to fire had been given, and four men were killed. There was a fearful outcry.

And so it went, from bad to worse. Lexington followed, then the attack on Canada, in the fall of 1775, and its failure during the ensuing winter. The arrival of a British force in Quebec in the summer of 1776 led to the retreat of the American army by way of the Richelieu River and Lake Champlain, with the British army at its heels. Crown Point was occupied and proved to be a rallying point for those who, in the northern regions, stood fast in their allegiance to British institutions.

Life in Camden Valley must have gone on as usual during these preliminary phases of the war to come. News travelled slowly in those far-off days, and the valley was more or less isolated and in a newly developed region. Even so, the men of the Valley must have considered the pros and cons, coming to the unanimous decision that they were for the memory of good Queen Anne and for the people who had given them sanctuary from the rigors of the Palatine Valley. Yet, during those



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first few years in the Valley, they kept their counsel and continued to wrest arable land from the valley and lower slopes of the neighboring mountains.

If life in secluded Camden Valley remained relatively unchanged in the fateful summer of 1776, the same could not be said for the rest of the American scene. In July, 1776, the Colonists declared their independence from the Mother Country. The moment of decision had arrived, and the time had come for the sheep to be divided from the goats. Rebel committees were set up in the larger centres for the purpose of furthering the rebellion. Men were called upon to declare their stand. Those against the rebellion, and for a continuance of close ties with the Mother Country were subjected to intimidation, fines and oftentimes imprisonment.

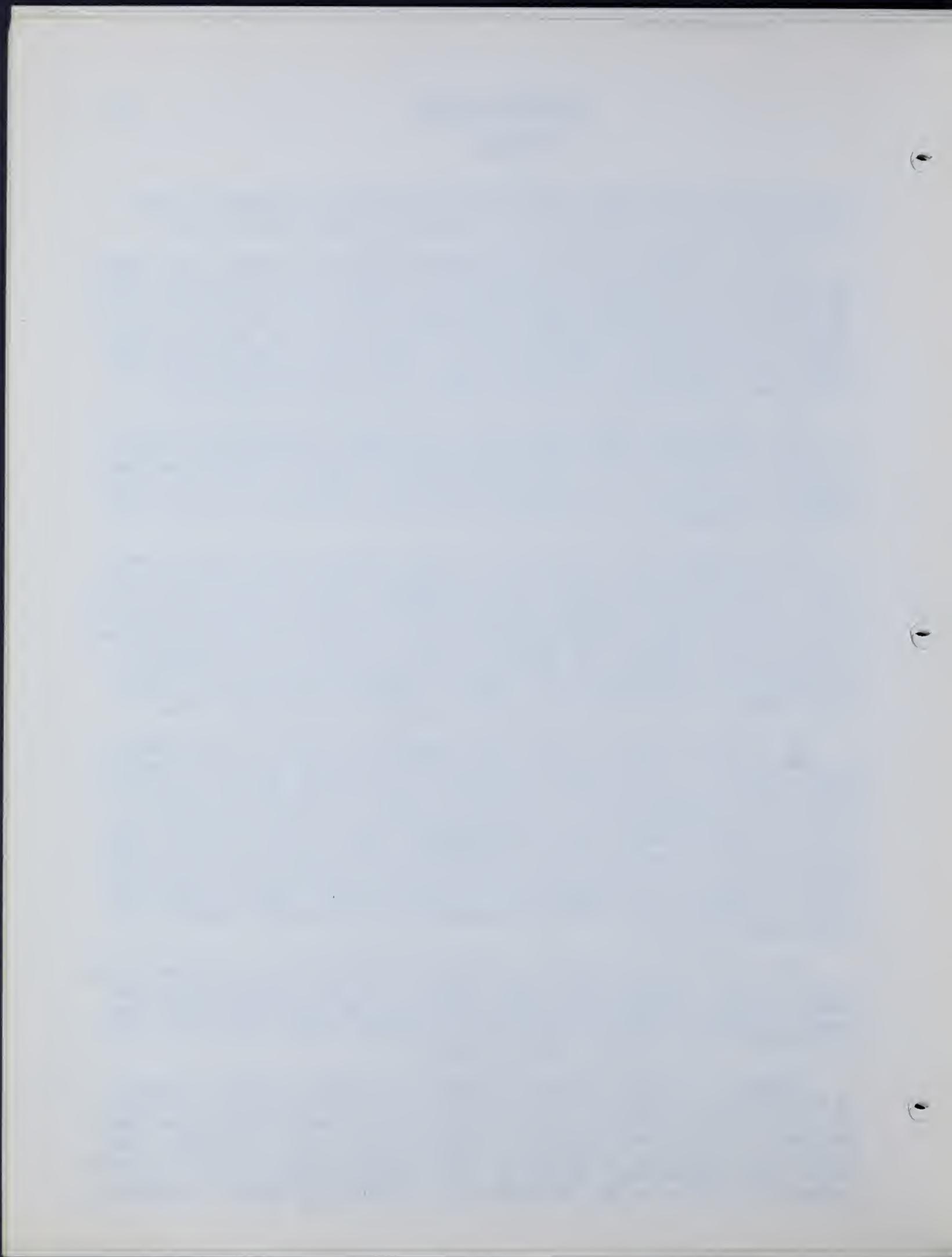
Those who remained loyal were slow in organizing their stand against rebellion. Their activities were largely confined to secretly organizing their forces in preparation for the time when the Mother Country would take steps to suppress the rebels. Leading men in the various communities became the nominal head of the resistance, and it was he who officered the different groups when Loyalist Regiments were gazetted.

In the spring of 1776, a British flotilla, bearing an army under the leadership of General Carleton, sailed up the St. Lawrence River to the relief of the City of Quebec. The American Army, which had besieged the city during the previous winter, retired up the St. Lawrence, followed by Carleton and his army, and descended the Richelieu River and Lake Champlain on its retreat to the American Colonies. Carleton followed closely, and defeated the American ships on Lake Champlain. The British advance continued, and the fort at Crown Point fell into British hands. The occupation of Crown Point was a signal to many loyal Americans, and a large number flocked to Carleton to offer their services in the struggle to come.

The Loyalists came from the territory immediately adjacent to Crown Point. And among them was the small contingent from Camden Valley, under the command of Edward Carscallen. His loyalist claim states that he brought with him twenty men. The names of his party is easy to ascertain, by reason of their petitions and claims. They came practically to a man from the Valley -- Edward Carscallen with his sons, John and James; John and David Dulmage; Valentine Detlor with his sons, John, Jacob, and Samuel; Garret and Peter Miller; John and Andrew Embury; Philip Switzer; Paul Heck or Hicks; John Lawrence; as well as James, George and William Miller. On their arrival at Crown Point in early November, 1776, they were taken on board Carleton's ship, where they received the thanks of the commander for their proof of loyalty.

The die had now been cast, and the loyal Palatines had left the Camden Valley, never to return. When the British force returned down Lake Champlain before the annual freezing, the Camden Valley men accompanied them. Records show that they spent the following winter in barracks at Chateauguay, Quebec, whilst their wives and children remained behind in Camden Valley.

General John Burgoyne arrived in Quebec in the spring of 1777, accompanied by more British and German troops. His object was to advance across Lake Champlain and descend the Hudson River, where he was to meet the army of General Howe from New York, and in this way to crush the rebellion in New York. This Northern army reached Fort Ticonderoga in early June, which was the signal to Loyalists to rally to his side. Hundreds came, and as they did so, Loyalist regiments were formed. Carscallen and his party were allocated to the Queen's Loyal Rangers, commanded by



Civil War

Colonel John Peters, formed mainly from Loyalists from Vermont and adjacent territory. Edward Carscallen and John Dulmage were appointed lieutenants in the company from Camden Valley. Valentine Detlor and his sons, because of their ages, enlisted as privates.

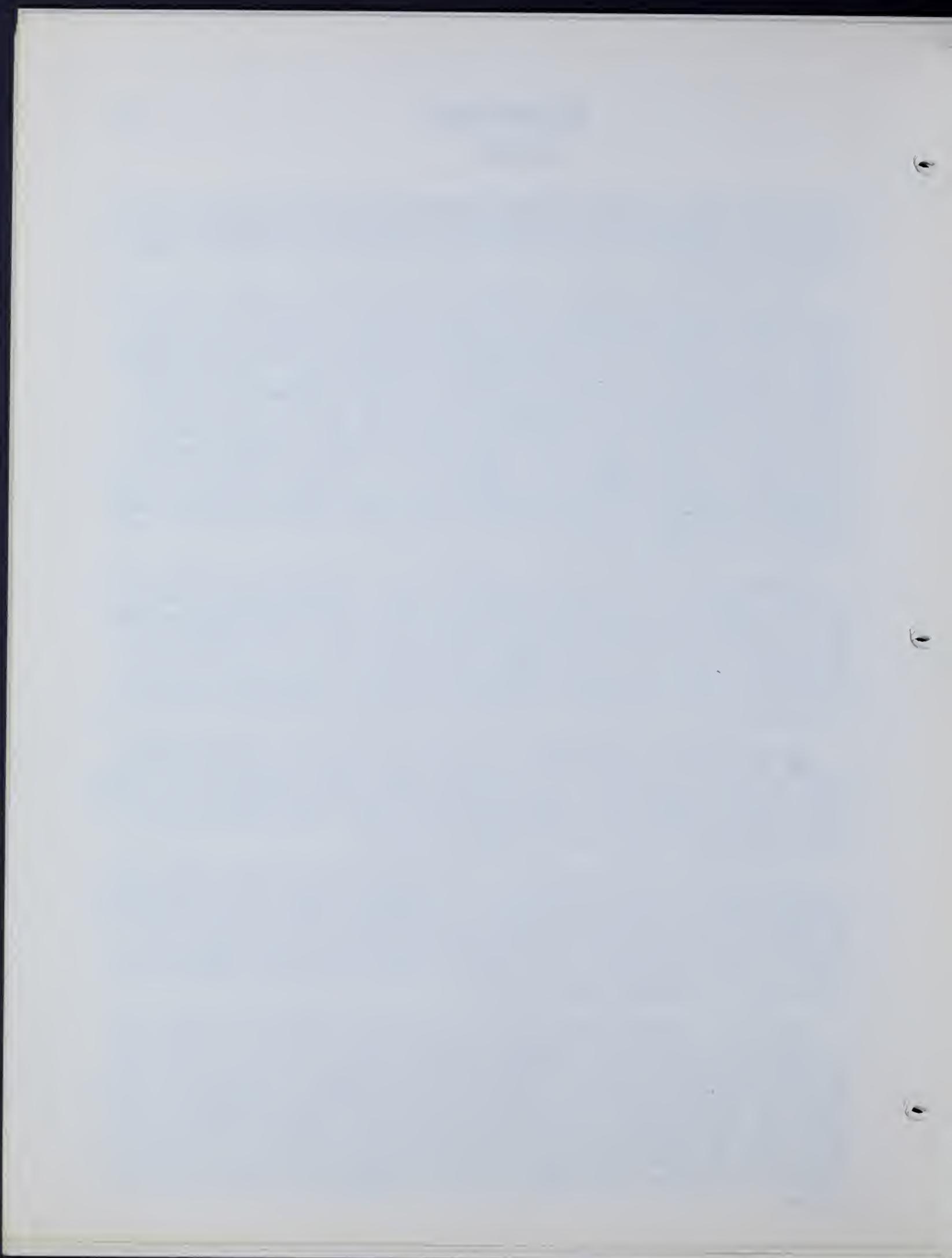
The Queen's Loyal Rangers was formed on 24 June, 1777. It was a regiment of untried men, in the main, many of them yet unarmed, but all eager to do their share. In the course of the advance, Burgoyne decided to send a force to occupy Bennington, Vermont, and to capture large stores of food believed to be stored there. For this purpose he sent a battalion of German troops, supported by the Queen's Own Rangers, of which the Camden Valley settlers formed a part. This force of untried troops left Fort Edward, crossed the Battenkill River and the Foothills into the Owl Creek Valley, stopping for the night near its entrance into the Noosick River. From thence they marched eastward, following the Wallcoomsac River in the direction of Bennington. Their advance was checked near North Bennington by a large force of rebel troops, and in the ensuing battle the British were defeated. The Queen's Own Rangers were badly mauled and many were taken prisoners. Fortunately, the Camden Valley soldiers were able to escape and make their way back to Fort Edward.

Colonel Peters' Rangers suffered greatly in the battle, and, six days later, on the 22 August, 1777, a large proportion of them, including Valentine Detlor and his sons, were transferred to the Loyal Volunteers, a Loyalist Company commanded by Captain Samuel McKay. McKay's Volunteers continued with Burgoyne and participated in the two battles of Saratoga, in September and October. Failure at Saratoga caused Burgoyne to retreat to a fortified position at the mouth of Fish Creek, where he eventually surrendered on October 15th, mainly because of the approach of winter and the failure of action by General Howe in New York City.

The capitulation at Saratoga was a sad blow to the hopes of the Loyalists, because they were now open to stern action by the rebels, who considered them to be traitors and easily liable to be hanged as such. General Burgoyne then advised them to attempt escape and subsequent safety in Canada. Fortunately, many did so, among whom were the soldiers from Camden Valley. There is record that McKay's Volunteers spent the winter near St. John's, Quebec.

By the terms of the capitulation at Saratoga, any soldier who served in the campaign could not again serve during the remainder of the war. This applied to the Loyalists as to others. Therefore, for a few years, these men were subsequently employed in various projects, such as building roads, fortifications, etc. There is evidence that they were formed into companies for these purposes, and Valentine and Jacob were attached to Captain Wilkinson's Company, while Samuel was a drummer in Captain Munro's Company.

By 1780, it was discovered that the rebels had not lived up to their terms of capitulation. This gave the British the right, also, to break the terms. As a result, the Loyalists who had fought in the campaign of 1777 were again formed into regiments. The Detlors, who had been in Captain McKay's Volunteers, were by now listed as members of Captain Leake's Company, as Leake had succeeded to command on the death of McKay. A nominal roll of this last company, dated December, 1778, shows that Valentine, Jacob, Samuel and John were included in its ranks. At that time Valentine was on leave in Montreal, Samuel was on duty at Sorel, and John was at St. Ann's. Peter Detlor had been discharged on 24 June, and was in Canada.



Civil War

In 1781, the Loyalists were re-formed, at which time Valentine and Jacob joined the 2nd Battalion of the King's Royal Regiment of New York, commanded by Sir John Johnson, while John was serving with Captain Fraser's Company of the Loyal Rangers at the two forts on the Yamaska River. Peter, at that time, was classed as a civilian Loyalist, unsuitable for service. The Detlors remained as such until the end of the war, and their discharge from the service on 24th December, 1783.

So much for the male members of the Detlor family. What about Mrs. Detlor and the children? Unfortunately, little is known. Our first record shows Catherine and children as being with her husband in Canada in January, 1781. The records shows Catherine, with a son, likely George, over 6 years of age, two daughters over six, and one daughter under six. These last were likely Mary, Catherine and Elizabeth. Although there are no records dealing definitely with Mrs. Detlor and children before that date, we do know what happened to other women in the same position. Confiscation of estates was initiated in 1777, and it is assumed that Valentine's property was confiscated and sold during 1777 or 1778. Usually, the family was allowed the use of a cow or a few sheep, and the remainder of costs of living was taken from the husband's estate. In Sept., 1780, a law was enacted by which the families of Loyalists were ordered to proceed to their husbands. It is therefore likely that Catherine and family crossed from New York State to Canada in October or November of that year. The procedure was for flags of truce to proceed by boat from St. John's Quebec, to Fort Ticonderoga by way of Lake Champlain. The Loyalist families then boarded the boats at Ticonderoga, and the voyage to freedom was made.

During the time that these refugees were living in Quebec they were housed, clothed and fed by the Government. Admittedly the accommodations were not of the best. The fare was that of soldiers, and the accommodations were often soldier's barracks or rented houses. From the subsistence lists it would appear that Catherine and her children were housed at Lachine, a suburb of Montreal. In February 1784, Catherine is shown as being in Lachine with the same four children, as she was as late as September of the same year.

Peter Detlor is an unknown quantity in a history of the Detlors. He is not mentioned in George Hill Detlor's diary as a son of Valentine. We do know that he was living in Camden Valley, and that he enlisted in November, 1776, at Crown Point. He is shown as having a wife in 1784, without children. He may have been the eldest son of Valentine, or a younger brother or nephew. In any event, he was a Loyalist and a settler in Camden Valley. He apparently did not own land in the Valley, as he did not claim for loss of property. Further investigation may reveal his relationship to Valentine.

John Detlor, as the United Empire Loyalist List confirms, was a son of Valentine. He was a member of Captain Leake's Company in December, 1778. In a list of Captain William Fraser's Company of Loyal Rangers, 25 December, 1781, he is said to be 22 years of age, 5 feet 8 inches in height, with 4 years 5 months service. A similar report for the same company in January, 1783, calls him 23 years of age, with 7 years of service. In September, 1782, a J. Detlor, likely Jacob, was in hospital at Carleton Island, suffering from epilepsy, and is listed as a soldier in the 2nd Battalion of the King's Royal Regiment of New York. In September, 1784, he was still in the Engineers employment in Quebec Province.



Civil War

Jacob Detlor, a son of Valentine, according to the United Empire Loyalist List, was with Captain McKay's Company in December, 1777, which means that he had enlisted in 1776. In December, 1778, he is shown as a soldier in Captain Leake's Company, which had formerly been commanded by McKay. In a list of the 2nd Battalion of the King's Royal Regiment of New York, dated Jan., 1783, he is listed as 21 years of age, born in America, 5 feet 7 inches in height, with seven years service. He was unmarried when he came to Upper Canada in Loyalist Settlement.

Samuel Detlor was first listed in military records in October, 1778, when he was shown as a drummer in Captain Muir's Company at Sorel, Quebec. It is not definitely known when he came to Canada, although it is very likely that he accompanied his father in 1776. He is shown to have been enlisted in McKay's Volunteers in 1777, according to a return of that Company. He is shown in the United Empire Loyalist List as a son of Valentine Detlor. He apparently is included in a subsistence list, in Feb., 1784, with his father and brother, George. The notation shows Valentine Detlor and two sons at Montreal.

The war ended, insofar as the Loyalist soldiers are concerned, on Christmas Eve., 1783, when all the Loyalist units in Quebec Province were disbanded, there to await the migration to Upper Canada in the following spring. The war had been lost; all the labor in the virgin forests in Camden Valley had been in vain; the land jobber, James Duane, was once more in possession, all the richer for the hopes and efforts of the Palatine Irishmen. And Valentine Detlor, his family and his friends were homeless people in the midst of a foreign tongue and penniless wards of the British Government. But, hopes were held out--free land was to be theirs in the wilderness of Upper Canada, and the descendant of Good Queen Anne would again be their benefactor.

